MAXIM

NEW ZEALAND

SEPTEMBER 2023 ISSUE 55

TITAN

ELON MUSK

THE LEADING VOICE ON AI

P. 32

ON TOUR WITH...

Gabby EPSTEIN

THE AUSSIE MODEL, LIFESTYLE BLOGGER AND SOCIAL MEDIA SUPERSTAR TAKES ON DESTINATION MAXIM

P. 36

PLUS

DELTA GOODREM

INSIDE THE NEW F1 CARS

BIG WAVE SURFING

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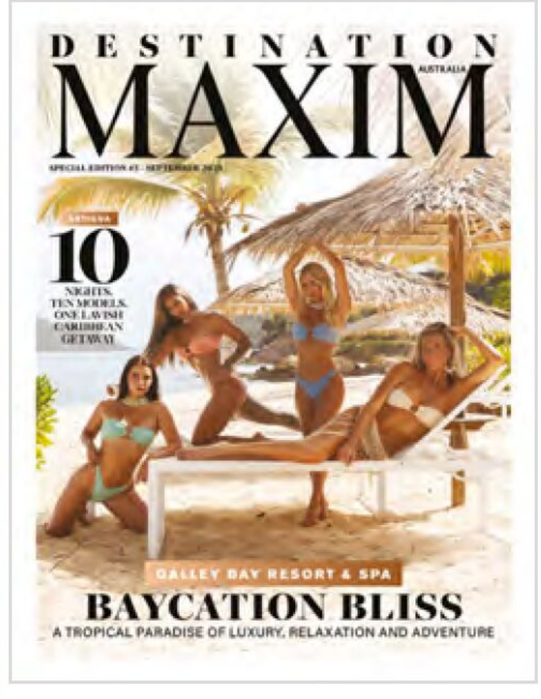












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FRONT COVER

GABBY EPSTEIN

PHOTOGRAPHED BY
ROCKY BATCHELOR



BACK COVER
(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT)
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The WILD ONES

Taschen assembles the world's ultimate collection of collector motorcycles...

By BRANDON FRIEDERICH

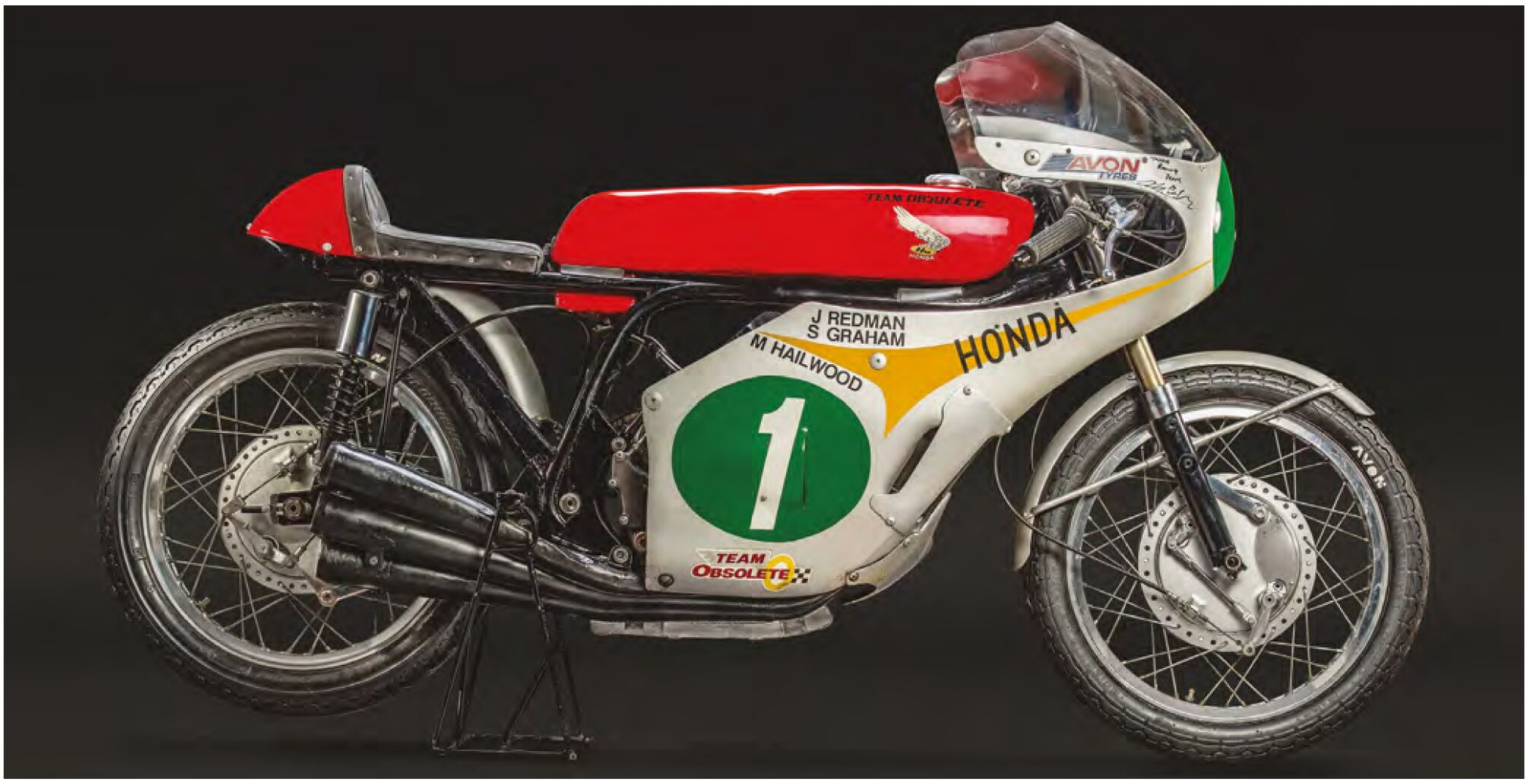
1940 Crocker 61 cu. in. "Big Tank"

For the longest time motorcycles were the second-class citizens of the collector car world. When they did come up for auction, it was usually as an afterthought in most of the big auction houses and they'd be stuck in between some premium collector cars in the hope that some of the sheen would rub off." So says no less an authority than Jay Leno in the foreword to Ultimate Collector Motorcycles, the definitive work for classic motorbike enthusiasts, newly published in an oversized, double-volume format by Taschen.

The beautifully photographed and meticulously researched book by Charlotte and Peter Fiell features 100 of the most exceptional tional bikes ever built, photographed as lovingly as supermodels. The couple, who have penned over 60 design-centric books including Taschen's double-volume Ultimate Collector Cars, were thorough in selecting the exceptional few from 130 years of motorcycle history. They list "innovation, functional beauty, raw power, competition histories, exceptional rarity, and inherent desirability," as crucial factors in their selection.

The timing couldn't be better. As motorcycle historian and Ducati expert Ian Falloon later notes in the accompanying text, "As many collectors don't even ride motorcycles, these machines have moved beyond leisure products and into the realm of works of art." No surprise then that this past February a 1908 Harley Davidson Strap Tank fetched





an eyewatering US$935,000 by Mecum Auctions, making it the most expensive motorcycle ever sold at auction, according to Hagerty.

In 2022 a record number of vintage bikes ranging from antiques to racers brought six-figure sums as well, if it wasn't already apparent that classic motorcycles are poised to join fine whisky, luxury watches and, most analogously, classic cars as the latest prized possessions of the ultra-wealthy. These bikes are MotoGP champions, Isle of Man TT winners, world-record setters, paradigm shifters, and history makers. And almost all of them are worth an astounding amount of money.

"Although [some motorcycles] were important landmark designs, they were produced in such high numbers that they are just too common," the authors note. "The bikes we mostly sought out are the ones that are valued in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, and in some rare instances, in the million-plus or even multimillion-dollar brackets."

But what makes Ultimate Collector Motorcycles truly compelling – aside from the stunning images provided by archivists, owners and leading moto photographers – are the incredible accompanying provenances of the motorcycles presented. "We were absolutely determined to only feature rare and interesting models that were demonstrably authentic examples, and that were, wherever possible, backed up with ironclad provenances," the authors write. "So rather than showing, say, a 1979 Ducati Mike Hailwood Replica, as many books might do, we are instead showing the actual Ducati racer that the great 'Mike the Bike' rode to his unforgettable Isle of Man TT F1 victory in 1978."



PRECEDING SPREAD AND THESE PAGES ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF TASCHEN

This page (top): *1964 Honda RC165 250 cc Works Grand Prix Racer;* ***Bottom:*** *1951 Vincent Series C Red White Shadow;* ***Opposite (top):*** *1929 Brough Superior SS100 Alpine Grand Sports;* ***Bottom:*** *1957 Moto Guzzi 500 cc V8 Works Grand Prix Racer*

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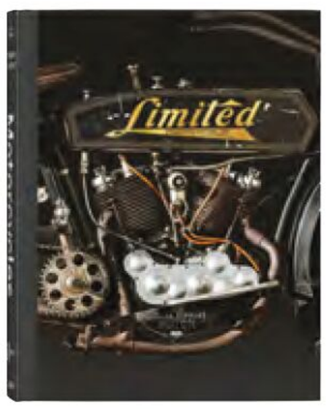
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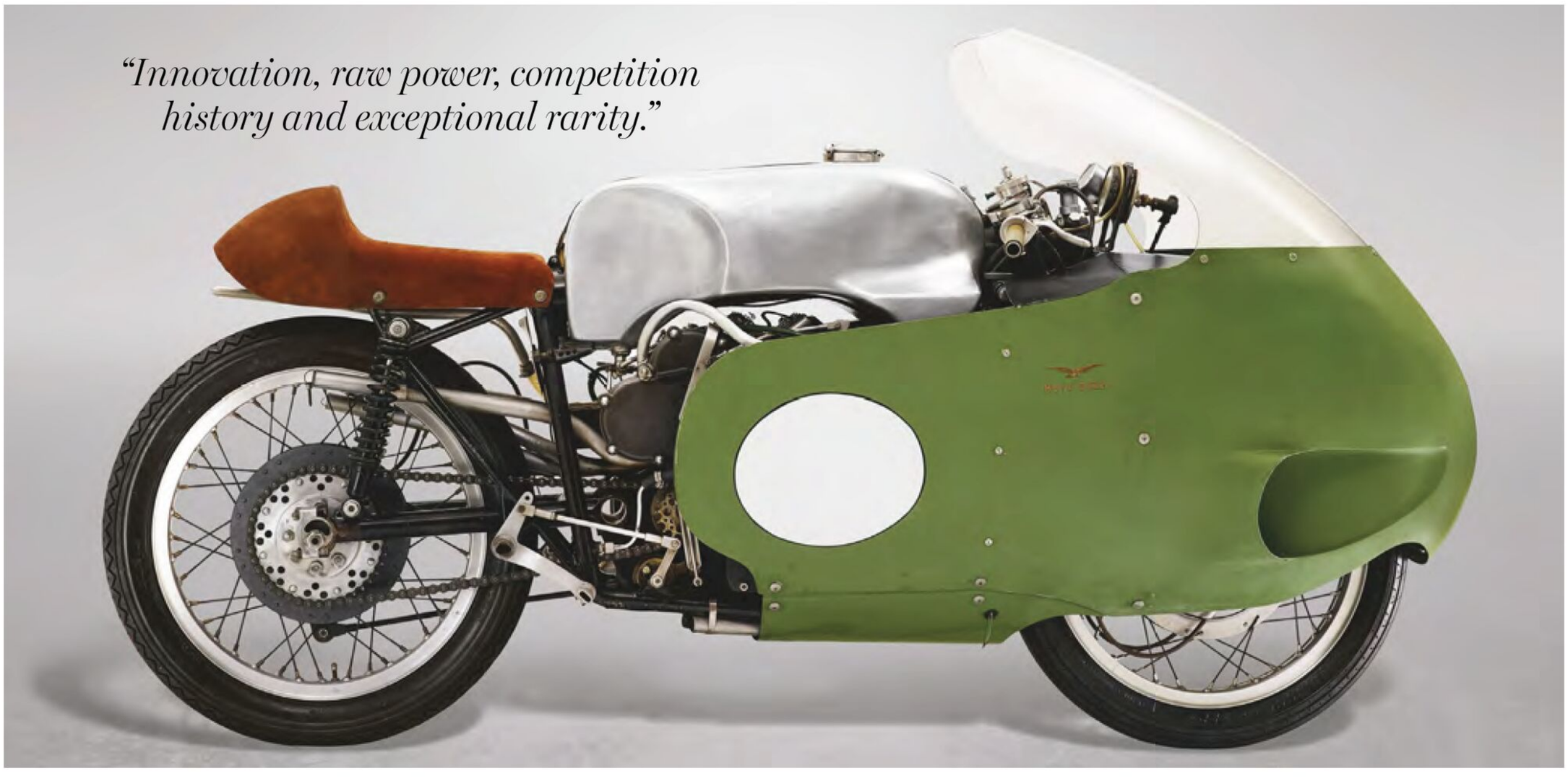


Another highlight is a Brough Superior SS1100 Alpine Grand Sports – a 1936 example of which sold for over US$300,000 at Bonhams in 2022. But the one shown in Ultimate Collector Motorcycles was owned by famed British archaeologist, army officer, diplomat, and best-selling author, T.E. Lawrence, aka Lawrence of Arabia. According to the book, it is "on this machine Lawrence regularly undertook the 235-mile journey from Plymouth to London in less than five hours [which], given the parlous state of the roads back then, was very impressive."

There's an especially glorious example of an Art Deco-styled Crocker "Big Tank" produced by Crocker Motorcycle Company of Los Angeles, a firm that only operated for a decade from 1932 to 1942. It was perhaps the only American-made contemporary of the Brough Superior SS1100 that offered any competition on the road. Today, it competes for sky high prices. "When a similar 1939 Crocker Big Tank... came up for sale at Mecum Auctions in January 2019, it was the all-out star lot. It went on to far exceed its presale estimate by selling for a then record-breaking US$704,000."



And then there's the only Vincent Series C White Shadow painted Chinese Red; a bubble-faired 1957 Moto Guzzi racer powered by a 500cc V8; and the one-off 1972 Ducati 750 Imola – believed by some to be the most valuable motorcycle in the world. This book may be as close as you ever get to them, but as tributes go it's well worth the price of entry. ■



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THE GOODS

Hot on the heels of her new album and upcoming tour, we take a look back at our exclusive photo shoot and interview with sexy songstress, and former MAXIM HOT 100 winner, **DELTA GOODREM** as she discusses her music, work ethic and facing adversity, with a special message to you the reader...

Photographed by CARLOTTA MOYE
Interview by SANTI PINTADO
Styled by JESS PECORARO

"To create that fire, passion and energy in the room is hot."

You look absolutely beautiful in this MAXIM shoot — when do you feel sexy?
I feel sexiest and happiest after I have worked hard for a goal and achieved what I set out to do. There is a confidence when you see your dreams come to fruition and that's when I am feeling my best inside and out.

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
I work extremely hard. All that we create and put out only comes together with a tremendous amount of hard work. I also think that I am more playful than people realise but also more straight shooting than you may expect. I started in acting and music when I was very young and since I was with adults all the time, people automatically thought I was shy and as a teenager I think people thought I was serious. I am a serious artist, but I like to have a good laugh along the way.

What's your best asset?
I think my best asset is my capacity to care and feel empathy and kindness. Beauty starts from within and I am grateful that my parents raised me to be deeply caring and compassionate for other people.

Here at MAXIM the word "hot" encapsulates so many meanings — from being inspirational to talented to physical appearance. What's your secret to maintaining your hotness?
I think it's about being passionate and driven and having fun while also encouraging everyone to step up to the plate and be the best they can be. To create that fire, passion and energy in the room is hot.

You've overcome so much adversity in your life. What's your secret to keep on keeping on?
The reality of life is that we all have to keep going, even when it's tough. We have to take it one step at a time. I am no different to anyone else that at times I keep having to pick myself up and continue to keep moving my life forward. You always have to keep the faith and have hope. Throughout our lifetime we encounter all sorts of adversities, but I think it comes down to attitude and how you see the positive in each experience while never giving up faith that you can get through anything.

Where do you see yourself in five years?
I have no idea actually! Hopefully doing something epic, amazing, fun and surrounded by love.

What is your motto in life?
I absolutely love this quote from Mother Teresa and has been one of my guiding mottos lately. "People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway. If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway. What





you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway. If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway. The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway. Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway. In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway".

Finally, do you have a message for MAXIM readers?
I want to say a huge thank you to all of the MAXIM readers. Being No.1 in the 2020 MAXIM HOT 100 was an amazing surprise and particularly special with everything going on in the world at the time. ■

"I am more playful than people realise but also more straight shooting than you may expect."

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Delta Goodrem

BORN: November 9

HOME TOWN:
Sydney, NSW

FIVE-WORD SELF-DESCRIPTION:
"Authentic, loyal, compassionate, playful and creative."

INSTAGRAM:
@deltagoodrem

TWITTER:
@DeltaGoodrem

Hair by
DIANE GORGIEVSKI
Make-up by
NONI SMITH-FINLAY

The FIGHT *for* SURVIVAL

Nazaré, Portugal, boasts the biggest waves in the world and is the Mecca of Big-Wave Surfing. In his latest book, sports journalist MATT MAJENDIE shares the highs and lows of the 2021-22 season, witnessing massive waves, wipe-outs, rescues, near tragedies and death-defying escapes. In this edited extract he gives us an insight into a daredevil's ordeal while searching for the perfect wave...

Photography by VITOR ESTRALINHA

Sebastian Steudtner's world-record wave surfed on October 29, 2020. After nearly 18 months of waiting, and amidst whispers of smashing 90 feet, Steudnter's record was finally ratified on May 25, 2022 at 86ft (26.21m)



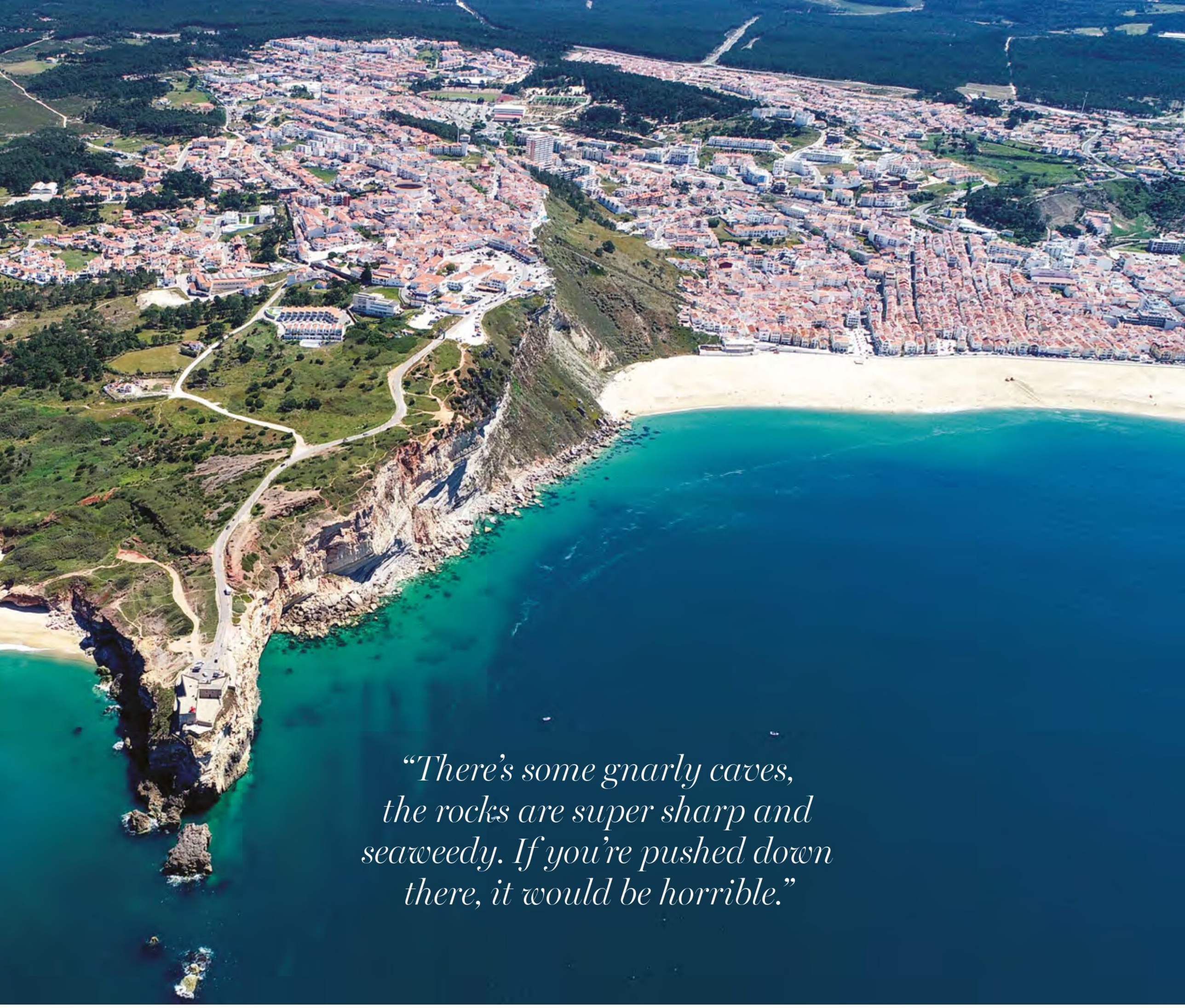
ne minute, Andrew Cotton is reclining in the December sunshine, the next, fighting for his life, a lone black blob teetering in Nazaré's death zone. Whitewash surrounds him and for two-and-a-half minutes – a time frame that feels infinitely longer for his girlfriend Justine White, friends and teammates watching on the clifftop above – his life hangs in the balance. Things tend to go wrong quickly in Nazaré. One minute, he is being picked up on the back of a jet ski after riding a latest wave. As his rescuer Alemao de Maresias hits the throttle to surpass the crest of the next wave, the lip of it juts up just that bit higher than either anticipates.

The rescue vehicle lands heavily back on the water's surface. Cotty, as he is better known to everyone, shakes the water from his eyes only to realise, as his vision returns, that



his rescuer has been knocked clean off. He quickly shifts himself into the driver's seat and hits full gas to try to evade the next breaking wave – only to be sideswiped and sent battering towards the rocks on which the Fort of Sao Miguel Arcanjo stands.

Those looking out for him on the walkie-talkies, the so-called spotters, are unsighted on the clifftop – their view blocked by the fort – and unable to help. Others on the fort wolf-whistle to the jet skis surrounding the rock as their drivers try to spot him and find a safe passage to rescue. The level of panic from the helpless above to the even more helpless in the



This page (top): Praia do Norte (left) and Nazaré’s main beach (right), separated by the fort and cliffs that provide such a unique viewpoint of the big waves. The sharp drop of the underwater canyon can be seen in front of the main beach; ***Opposite left:*** No one day is ever the same on Nazaré’s north beach. Often the biggest swells bring inclement weather. Here, Cotton finds himself battling the elements watched by the crowds on the clifftop; ***Right:*** Von Rupp (left) and Pedro Scooby clutch the Most Committed award – after narrowly missing out on the top spot – at the first Tow Surfing Challenge in December 2021

water rapidly grows and reaches a crescendo.

Cotton is thrown against the two standalone rocks that jut out of the water’s surface between the fort and the open expanse of the Atlantic Ocean. They spit him out perilously close to the jagged caves below the fort, in which certain death awaits. One more big wave and he will be battered and shattered against the cliff face and will most likely end up dead. One of his peers, the Portuguese surfer Nic von Rupp, later estimates the chance of survival at this stage and in that position is about 10 per cent.

But, momentarily, the size of the waves offers some brief respite. The current whips him out to safety and his marine walk with death is at an end, 150 seconds of mayhem over. Cotton – by this point relatively breathless, battered and bruised – is finally picked up by a jet-ski driver. For those standing on the clifftop, that two and a half minutes feels markedly longer, and also lengthy enough for Cotton himself to consider a potential endgame.

“I remember thinking, ‘This is about as bad as it gets,’” he says, showered off and changed just hours after the incident. “I thought, ‘If the next wave gets me, it could be a really horrible, painful and slow death.’ There’s some gnarly caves, the rocks are super sharp and seaweedy. If you’re pushed down there, it would be horrible. Sometimes you watch the waves and they regularly break where I was. This time, for whatever the reason, they didn’t. It’s the roll of the dice, isn’t it?”

Cotton had previously decided not to go out on this particular day. With windy conditions and bumpy waves, it was an unnecessary risk just two days out from a competition. Now that he is in his forties, there is no longer the burning desire, the aching need to surf every wave, to be

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Matt Majendie is a sports correspondent at the *Evening Standard* and has twice been nominated in the British Sports Journalism Awards. He's also has worked for CNN, BBC radio, podcast series *Bloodsport* and writes articles for redbull.com. He lives in Bristol in the UK.



Top: A drone captures the dangers and difficulties that the jet ski drivers face in order to find the safest and quickest way to scoop up a surfer in the aftermath of a wave; ***Bottom:*** On February 11, 2020 this 73.5ft (22.4m) wave saw Gabeira beat her own world record set in 2018 for the Largest Wave Surfed by a female



"There was a moment where I thought, 'I've really f—ked it here, this is really going to be it.'"

immersed in every single swell as he once did. But even now, when all his sensibilities say something else, he sometimes just can't help himself.

Cotton's instinct is to sit it out in the coastline home he is renting during the big-wave season in Nazaré. But on days like this, the strength of the villa's location can also be its curse. There is something in the waves that, on such days, drags even a noncommittal surfer in, and stokes a fear of missing out, as jet skis bob in and out of the water and surfers catch the occasional clean wave only a few hundred metres in front of him.

Nazaré's big-wave surfers have a propensity to shake off the near disasters – they have to, in order to mentally get themselves back in the water. The surfer from North Devon is not the first one to find himself stranded in big-wave surfing's no man's land. Others have been in the same watery limbo between life and death. Garrett McNamara, the first man to surf Nazaré on its big days, ended up there moments after breaking the world record in 2011 for what was then the biggest wave ever surfed – a 78-footer. Such is the speed with which moments of celebration can nearly end in tragedy along this stretch of the Portuguese coast.

Even years later, the Hawaiian McNamara's wife Nicole likes to imagine she can locate a spot in those caves where he can improbably find himself a safe haven and where she could winch down food to him should he ever find himself stuck in there, confident he could see it out safely until the waves have died down.

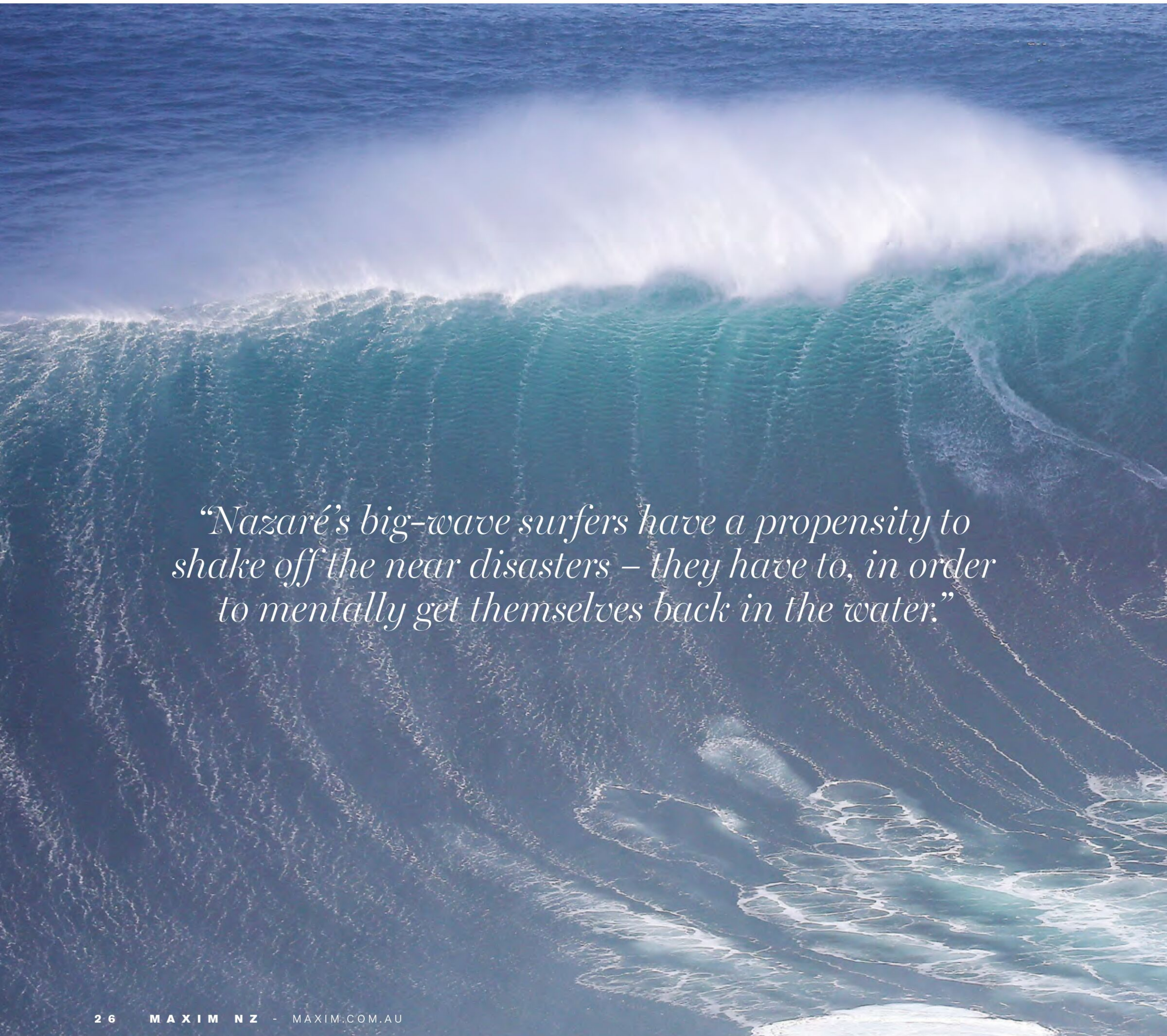
In Nazaré, family-and-friend onlookers tell themselves all manner of things to reassure themselves, as they helplessly stand a couple of hundred metres above and avoid acknowledging that their loved ones might one day meet with tragedy. Up until this point – the start of the 2021–22 surfing season in the Portuguese fishing village – remarkably, no one has died in its perilous

waters. And yet there is a foreboding for all those working in and out of the water of such an eventually on any given day. This is the nature of the surfers' dangerous undertaking. The reality is it might even happen this season.

For Cotton, his own dice with death is a bad one but, he argues somewhat unbelievably, for those watching, there have been infinitely worse. For his girlfriend, it is her first time witnessing him in real trouble. Turned white, she is virtually muted, her walkie-talkie, normally used to communicate with those in the water, snatched from her by one of the spotters in an initially vain attempt to launch a rescue mission, which is only achieved thanks to the changing current of forgiving seas rather than all manner of safety operations in place on land and sea.

Cotton, Britain's leading big-wave surfer, has broken his back and torn his anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in Nazaré's stormy seas on previous outings. Of his latest brush with the rocks, he says almost nonchalantly: "It's not as bad as the back-breaker, and it's more traumatic for anyone watching than for anyone going through it. But there was a moment where I thought, 'I've really f—ked it here, this is really going to be it.' But I've thought that a few times before.

This page (top): Nic von Rupp catches a wave in an early swell in October 2021, just as the big-wave season gets under way; ***Opposite left:*** Crews can bob up and down for hours waiting to be guided into the perfect wave by the spotters watching from the clifftops. Rows occasionally break out as teams jostle for the best opportunities; ***Right:*** Spotters, photographers and spectators congregate around the Fort of São Miguel Arcanjo and its distinctive red lighthouse for the best view of the breaking waves



"Nazaré's big-wave surfers have a propensity to shake off the near disasters – they have to, in order to mentally get themselves back in the water."

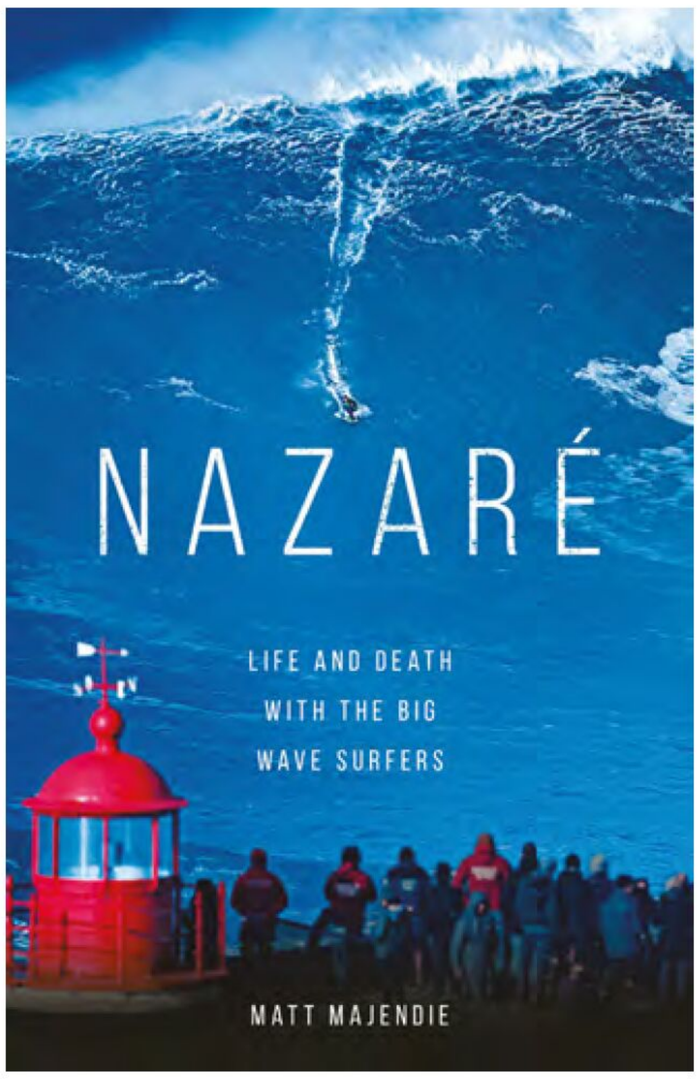






The nightmare is to get pushed into one of those caves – you'd never get out – so I'd definitely put it in my top five worst, maybe higher."

Everyone has their Nazaré stories: knocked unconscious and face down in the water; the elbow dislocated at its socket and the arm pointing in the wrong direction on exiting the water; the handlebars of the jet ski knocking out a pair of front teeth; an earlobe ripped clean off. The list goes on. And yet they still return, big wave after big wave, swell after swell, near tragedy after near tragedy, for that ultimate adrenaline rush and that perfect wave – if such a thing exists or is capable of quenching their surfing thirst. ■



NAZARÉ: LIFE & DEATH WITH THE BIG WAVE SURFERS *by Matt Majendie (Welbeck, $34.99rrp) is out now*

BACK



Resident MAXIM fitness guru Alexa shares her tips, tricks and training to beefing up your back...

By ALEXA TOWERSEY

If there's one set of muscles that truly separates the wheat from the chaff when it comes to strength, physique and athletic performance, it's undoubtedly a big, strong back. This is the foundation – not just for the people pleasing V Taper that we can gaze on from behind, but from which bone crushing strength and power can be built. Unfortunately, it's almost impossible to choose the "best" back exercise because the back isn't just one muscle. And simply hammering rows, pulldowns and pullups with the same angles and grip in every workout isn't going to cut it either, because even though your lats, traps and spinal erectors are the super visible muscles, they aren't the whole picture.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

When building a bragworthy back, you're looking for both thickness and width, so you've got to know what muscles you need to hit, the right angles to hit those muscles, the best exercises to hit those angles, and then how to best program the exercises.

TOP TIP

Different back muscles respond better to different loading schemes. For instance, the lats respond well to heavier loading, but the posterior delts respond best to higher reps and metabolic stress.

VATION

BACK WIDTH

The muscle primarily responsible for creating width is the latissimus dorsi AKA the lats or wings. These drive shoulder extension and adduction (think arms moving behind and towards the body), and contribute to scapular retraction, depression, and downward rotation (think shoulder blades moving down and together) – all pivotal movements in vertical and horizontal pulls.

BACK THICKNESS

The muscles primarily responsible for creating thickness are the upper back muscles, more specifically the teres major, rhomboids and all fibres of the traps (upper, middle, and lower). The posterior delts also count here.

BACK STABILITY

The Spinal Erectors run the length of your spine and isometrically contract to brace and stabilise it in all major movements.

TOP TIP

The path your arms take and the type of grip you use will play a key role in which muscles get recruited. Generally speaking, underhand (supinated) grip and elbows in close bias the lats more, with an overhand (pronated) grip and wider elbows homing in on the upper back. Most people go far too heavy when training their backs and their form falls apart. If you're serious about building a strong, muscular, and dense back, then stick to the exercises that offer you the most value for time, focus on mind muscle connection ("backtivation") and utilise the principles of progressive overload.

WORK IT OUT

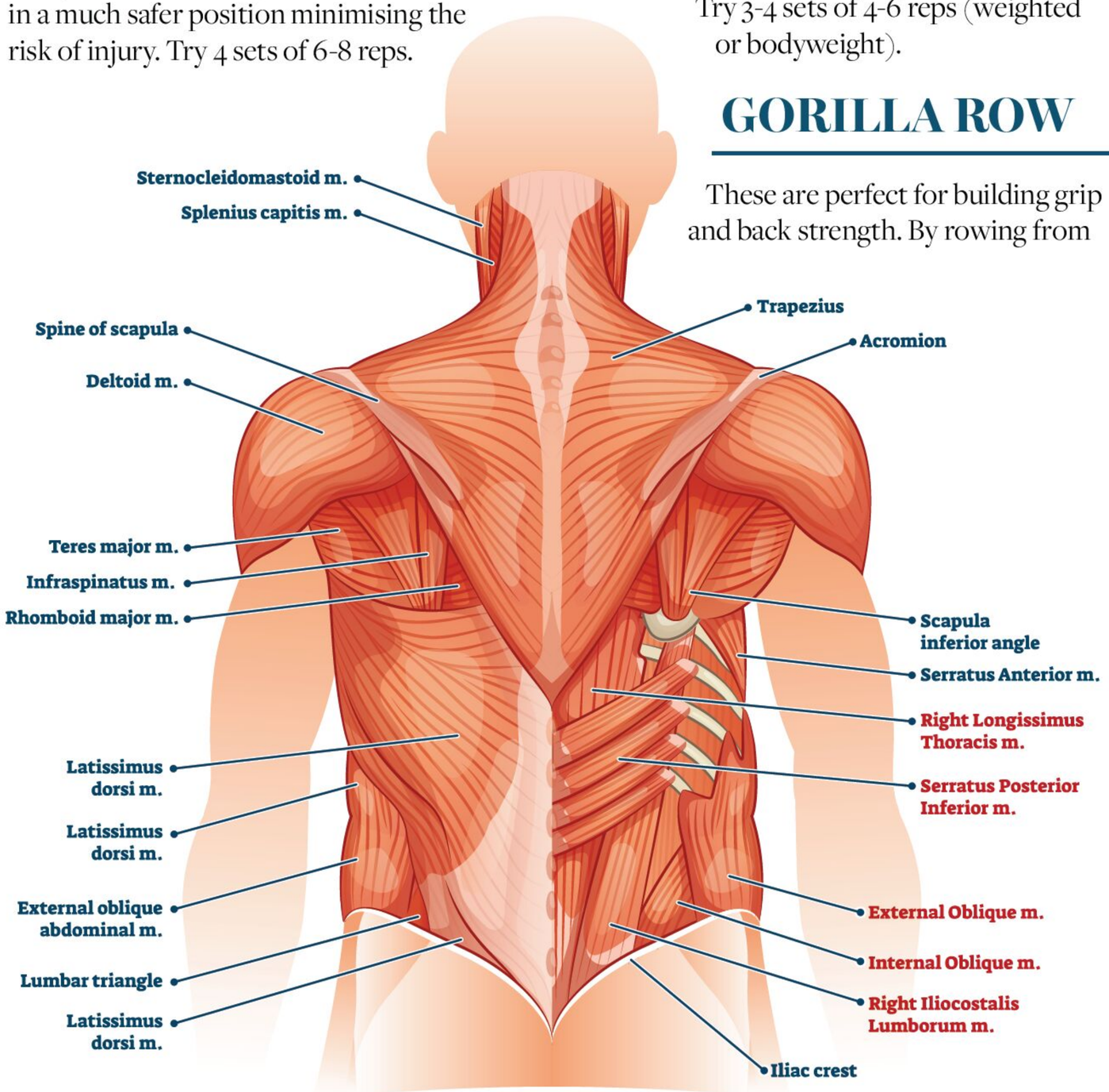
Here are six incredibly effective variations that you might not know about, but should definitely try...

TRAP BAR BENT OVER ROW

As the old saying goes, "you gotta row to grow" – and if you're looking to grow your lats, it's really hard to find a better horizontal variation than the hex bar. The neutral grips mean that your arms and elbows will be tucked right by your side as you pull the weight, and you can really drive your elbows all the way back to get the best contraction possible. Most people also find that the neutral grip makes handling heavy loads easier, not to mention that your wrists, biceps and shoulders are in a much safer position minimising the risk of injury. Try 4 sets of 6-8 reps.

LEAN AWAY CHIN-UPS

This is a great exercise, not only for your lats and biceps, but also for the subscapularis, serratus anterior, triceps and believe it or not, the abdominals. The exercise is simple. Perform a chin-up, then lean back and push yourself away from the bar as you slowly lower down. This will be a unique stress to your lats. Your torso should be at approximately 45 degrees to the floor. At the bottom, return your torso to an upright position and repeat for the desired reps. If you can't do a strict chin-up, you can perform eccentrics. Try 3-4 sets of 4-6 reps (weighted or bodyweight).



GORILLA ROW

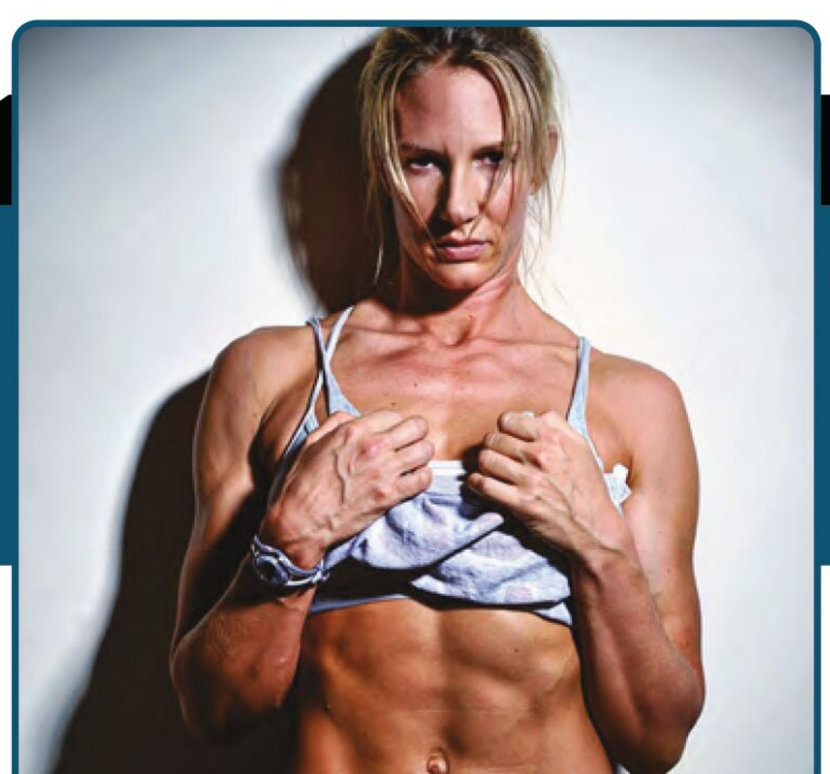
These are perfect for building grip and back strength. By rowing from a static position, you recruit more motor units which will increase muscle tension and have your lats pumped with blood. Begin with the kettlebells between your ankles, brace your midline, and sit your hips back into a proper hinged position. From there, row the kettlebell/s into the hip pocket. Not only will these blow up your back, but you'll likely get a good burn in the glutes and hamstrings. At the end of your workout try doing 6-12 reps of gorilla rows, followed by 6-10 reps of deadlifts, and end with a 30-50m Farmer's Walk. 3-4 sets of this combo will fire up your entire back chain.

CHEST SUPPORTED TOP DOWN BENT OVER ROW

One of the biggest problems lifters face with dumbbell/barbell rows is managing lower back pain and instability. This exercise mitigates the issue, and the support of the bench makes it damn-near impossible to cheat. The isometric portion at the top creates constant tension while boosting your mind-muscle connection, making it a staple for building thick traps and rhomboids. For a comprehensive pull combo, pump out 12 alternating HEAVY reps (6 each side) before a set of pull-ups/chin-ups.

BULGARIAN RING ROW

This is also known as the Elbowing Ring Row because it is performed with the elbows pointed out to the side with the upper arms parallel to one another. This exercise is a great preparatory movement to help develop strong and capable shoulders, as well as being very effective for isolating the upper back muscles - especially the rhomboids and mid/lower traps - the wide elbow angle greatly diminishing any help from the lats. Try 8-12 reps at the beginning of your workout as a primer, or at the end for a higher rep finisher. ■



ABOUT ALEXA

"Action Alexa" is an internationally published celebrity trainer, sports model and nutrition and lifestyle coach with over 15 years' experience in the health and fitness industry, and has worked with NZ's world champion rugby team, the All Blacks. She has qualified for the Ironman 70.3 World Champs and was named as one of the Five Toughest Trainers in Asia during her seven-year stint in an MMA gym in Hong Kong.

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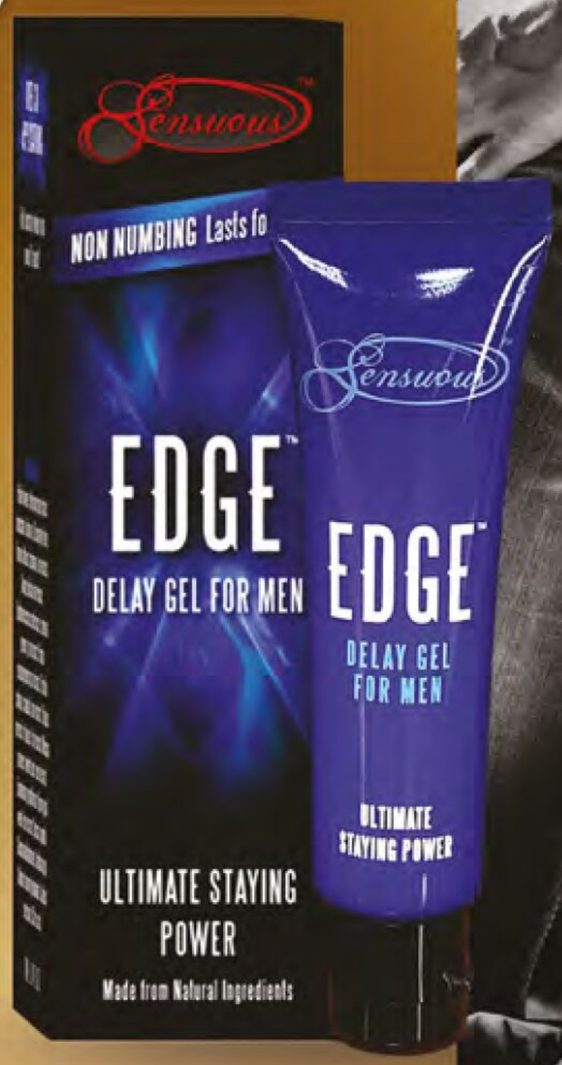
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BRAVE NEW WORLD

How billionaire Elon Musk has applied his genius and wealth to become a leading voice on Artificial Intelligence...

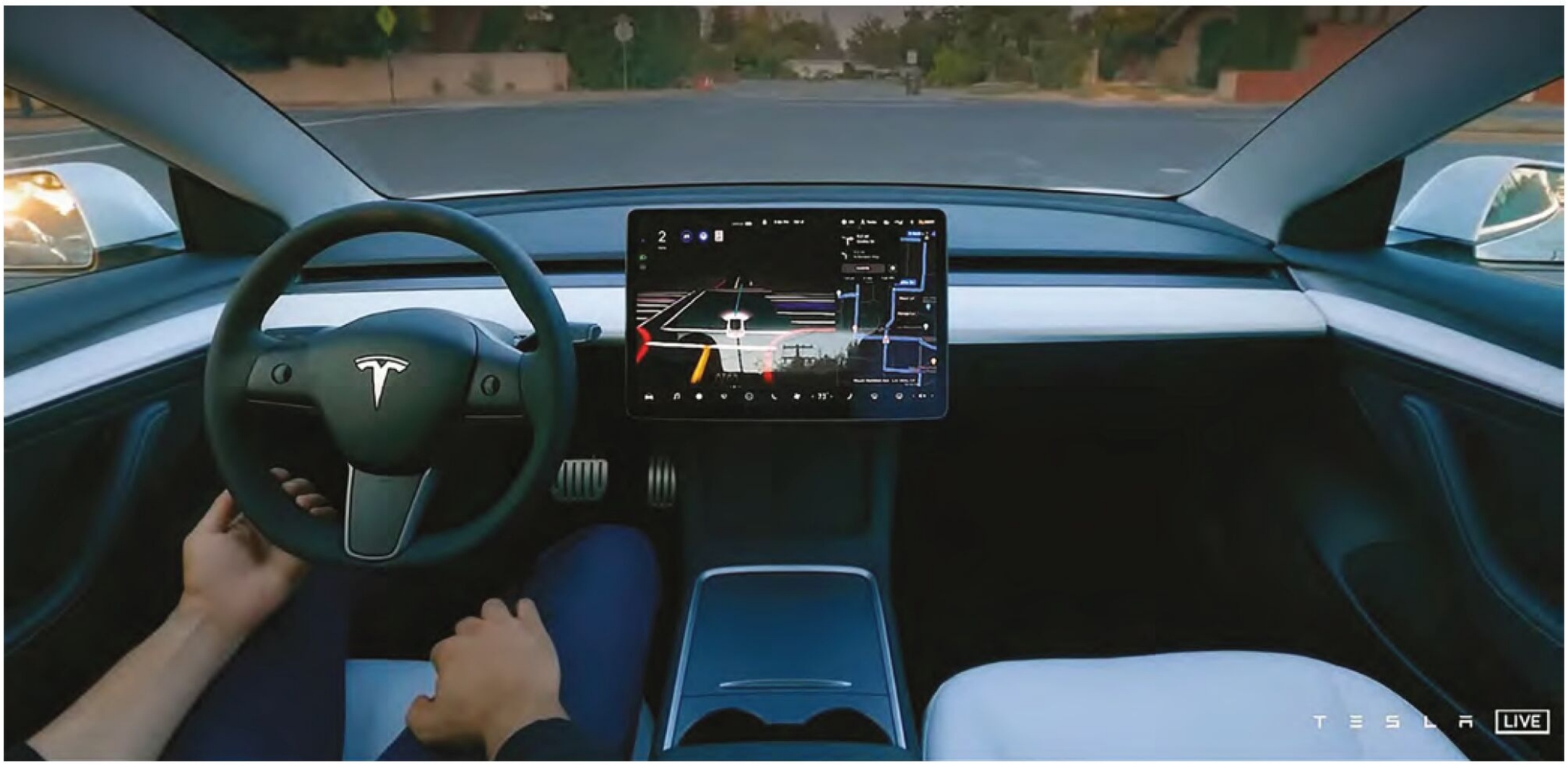
By KEITH GORDON



Pick up any mag or newspaper these days and there is a decent chance that on the front page you'll be able to find an article about Artificial Intelligence, Elon Musk or both. In fact, right now perhaps no two topics garner more attention, passion and debate than the South African-born billionaire and the technology that's on the verge of reshaping society in ways we still have yet to fathom.

This uncertainty was likely behind Musk's recent request, along with dozens of other technology thought leaders, to pause advanced AI projects for at least six months while the industry, and society at large, has a chance to better understand the potential risks – along with the rewards – and ways to mitigate any issues that may arise. After all, Artificial Intelligence is supposed to help society in countless ways, and it appears at these early stages to have the power to do so; but there are many unknowns. Musk's comments should shake us out of our indifference, as the genius billionaire, as well as the rest of humanity, needs to consider the question from every angle.

Musk, one of the richest men in the world, has remained a constant in the public spotlight thanks to his purchase of Twitter, his increasingly ambitious projects with SpaceX, as well as the continued development and growth of Tesla as a worldwide EV leader. Meanwhile, the recent developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as those from OpenAI's ChatGPT platform, continue to astonish and amaze the general public and media, as each day seemingly brings an advancement in the technology along with new ways to utilise it,



"He has made clear that this is an unprecedented Time in humanity's history."



from research to business, engineering and even art. While Tesla, SpaceX and now Twitter grab much of the public's attention regarding Musk, less known is the impact he's had and insight he's provided during the recent explosion of AI technologies after decades of theoretical progress. So while Musk's headline-grabbing businesses constantly produce newsworthy articles and deserve attention, it's vitally important that we don't allow the commotion and often uninformed commentary to distract us from the billionaire's thoughts on Artificial Intelligence and everything that goes with it. In fact, we are not alone in feeling that he needs to be one of the top voices in the room.

When ChatGPT was presented to the public in late 2022, the software's abilities and skill set readily became obvious, and it appeared to some to be a massive turning point for society and mankind's relationship with computers. Suddenly, the general public wasn't hearing vague stories about Artificial Intelligence in the news, or seeing sensationalised versions of it in popular sciencefiction, but was actually able to try it out for themselves. They were not disappointed. Ever since the release, not a week goes by without the public coming to a new realisation of how AI is going to not just alter but change their lives entirely, or without the media covering it as such.

Musk certainly isn't new to the field of Artificial Intelligence. Not only has he pioneered the use of AI (including Full Self-Driving or FSD) into his Tesla offerings, but he helped work on and Xearly stages. At the time the company was a nonprof it seeking to develop AI and share it openly with the public. Musk ended his association in 2018, with the explanation given at the time that the reason for his leaving was to avoid a conflict of interest between OpenAI's work and the machine learning research being done by Tesla to develop autonomous driving. So when in a recent interview Musk not only warned about the potential risks of AI but called for a regulatory agency to be established to oversee what companies are doing and ensure the technology is being developed responsibly, it caught people's attention.

After all, Musk is well-known for pushing against many kinds of government restraint or interference, making his call for regulation and even the slowing down of technological progress somewhat unexpected and semi-uncharacteristic. But it highlights multiple issues that both those working in these industries as well as the general public have been discovering with regards to Artificial Intelligence – namely the contradictions it conjures and the caution with which this has led humanity to take its first steps into this new realm. It is an immensely powerful tool, and conundrums seem inevitable, for the creators, for the public and even for Elon Musk.

These seemingly appear everywhere Artificial Intelligence is introduced, leaving even the enormously confident Musk teetering between excitement over the possibilities – "In terms of access to goods and services, I think AI will be ushering in an age of abundance," he has said – and fears over the possible risks. He has been heavily involved



"Musk is clearly in a better position than most to help us find the way forward."

with AI in some regard for over a decade and so can be said to qualify as one of our foremost experts on the subject. He has spoken at conferences concerning the issues that AI would inevitably present, and has ostensibly earmarked money for organisations aimed at tackling this exact topic. Not least because Tesla has only accelerated its AI program, moving beyond its simply Autopilot and Full Self-Driving technologies for its vehicles, to making more general AI-led advancements.

Musk is certainly excited by the potential of AI to improve our planet and the standard of living for humankind, but he also acknowledges the massive unknowns that accompany this new technological era. So while he has clear concerns about the arrival and impact of AI, it's often reassuring in a way to know that just like the rest of us, he can be uncertain about exactly how to proceed, and that such an intelligent person is focusing his attention on the issue.

Should there be more regulation or less? Should we develop as fast as possible as Musk has done in many of his businesses, or should we show restraint and slow down technological development until society has figured out which metaphorical guardrails need to be installed? Musk's thoughts on OpenAI's content moderation policies have even led him to publicly state his intention to start a rival to ChatGPT, possibly called TruthGPT, that wouldn't have the moderation and human intervention that Musk reportedly believes can run counter to free speech.

In addition to the continued AI development being done at Tesla, Musk has also founded a new AI company called X.AI Corp., aiming to forge his own AI firm to compete with the tech giants that have already invested many years and billions of dollars in their own AI programs, such as Google, and Microsoft. With both SpaceX and Twitter as natural beneficiaries of the technology in the coming years, it is highly likely that Musk will proceed with development of AI in his companies (Tesla, X.AI Corp., etc), while giving due considerations to the quandaries that arise. These issues are likely to be as pressing here on Earth as they would be on Mars, where Musk has been focusing SpaceX's efforts to allow us to colonise the planet, thereby, the theory goes, increasing our odds of survival as a species.

The one thing Elon Musk has made clear is that this is an unprecedented and unique time in humanity's history. He doesn't merely believe this is similar to previous technological paradigm shifts, but that it would be highly inadvisable to proceed unabated without considering every possible outcome, and to ensure we ultimately benefit and – of course, profit from it. No man can predict the future, but in terms of having been on the forefront of emerging technologies such as electric vehicles, space travel, solar energy, and more, Musk can clearly be said to be in a better position than most to help us find the way forward, evolv and progress. ■

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GABBY EPSTEIN

With a fan base in the tens of millions, the social media superstar, jet setting lifestyle blogger, YouTuber, biomedical science graduate and arguably one of Australia's hottest models, now adds MAXIM cover girl to her illustrious list. You're welcome...

Photographed by ROCKY BATCHELOR
Interview & styling by PARIS RAINE
Hair and make-up by POLINA PAK

"I'm a huge nerd. I never go out and really spend Saturday nights watching dinosaur documentaries. I'm a very boring person."

Hello, Gabby, congrats on your first MAXIM Australia cover. How do you feel?
I feel very honoured. Honestly, if 14-year-old Gabby with braces, a gapped tooth and just no sense of style could see me now – she wouldn't believe it.

It's a cool photo shoot. What did you love most about it?
It was so much fun. I mean, we're in one of the most beautiful places in the world – Koh Samui, Thailand – and I feel so lucky to be here. I love the weather, the team is amazing and I got to hang out all day in lingerie and in the sun.

You've done millions of photo shoots – what goes through your mind whilst shooting in lingerie or swimwear?
To be very honest, I just think about the burger and fries I'm going to eat later.

Well, you look stunning. Do you feel confident every time you're in front of a camera?
No, not at all – I'm so unnaturally uncomfortable in front of the camera. It doesn't come easily or naturally to me at all. I mean, I'm very grateful that this is the path my life has taken but it wasn't what I had in mind and wasn't what I had planned. I just feel incredibly lucky to be in this position.

How did you actually end up down this career path?
I was studying biomedical science at university with a major in neurology – yes, a VERY different pathway – while working at Woolies as a checkout chick as well as at Baskin Robbins, and I got offered a couple of E-comm photo shoots. I worked out that I'd make way more money doing a day's work of modelling than working at a checkout or in an ice cream store. And this was my whole reasoning for starting my social media career and it just grew from there.

What was your previous career plan looking like?
I'm a big science nerd – hence studying biomedical science – and I wanted to do something either in the medical or science fields, maybe even become a vet, after I'd done my bachelor's degree. Of course, this never happened and then social media kind of exploded back in 2013-14 and my life just ended up taking a completely different path.

You were also once a competitive swimmer. Tell us more about this.
Well, I peaked at like 16 or 17 so it's not really something to be proud of, but my whole family is very involved in sport and swimming – my mum and uncle were national swimmers, my grandad helped coach Olympians, my dad's brother is a three-time Paralympic weightlifting champion. So, yeah, I come from a very competitive family and that's definitely translated over to everything else in my life. But I tore my rotator cuff in my senior year of high school and it shattered my dreams of one day competing at the Olympics. So my life has taken a couple of different paths from what I thought it was ever going to take.

That must have been very challenging for you at the time.
It was. I mean, I think everything happens for a reason and it was a blessing in disguise. I know a lot of girls in the Australian swim team and they're the toughest athletes I know. So, I don't think I want to do what it takes to be at that level, but I'm definitely grateful for all the lessons that it taught me.

What do you feel is your best asset?
My best personality trait is that I have pretty thick skin. I'm not very sensitive and I'm definitely good at laughing at myself, which is what you need in social media because everyone else will laugh at you. So, if you can laugh at yourself it definitely helps. I don't know about my best physical asset but I wish it could be my feet because I've heard people pay a lot for those puppies on the Internet *[laughs]*. I mean, unfortunately I don't have the kind of feet people pay for but what I've heard girls make from feet photos – man, I wish that could be me.



"I wish my best physical asset would be my feet because I've heard that people pay a lot for those puppies on the Internet."

Talking about feet – tell us about these gecko toes and long fingers of yours that you talk about on your social media.
Yeah, I just have really long fingers – I make men feel very inadequate [laughs]. And these gecko toes… for whatever reason, if I'm in front of the camera my toes just separate – it's weird!

What else would people be surprised to know about you?
I'm a very awkward person by nature. I'm a huge nerd. I never go out and really spend Saturday nights watching dinosaur documentaries. I'm a very boring person. Truly! I feel like maybe what people see on social media, and I know it's not the case for everyone, but obviously people know by now it's like a highlight reel. I'm definitely not like that in real life. I look like a mess most of the time. I'm usually just like in sweats, no make-up and I can kind of pull it together for a photo once every few weeks. I think if people meet me in real life, they're usually pretty surprised how opposite I am.

You've been living in Los Angeles, California USA for the last few years…
Yes. I was living back and forth between Australia and L.A. for a few years and then obviously the pandemic happened and I kind of got stuck in America. Now my whole life is in L.A. – my dog, my friends, my work… and I just ended up living there full-time, kind of by default.

Besides friends and family, what do you miss most about Australia?
The people, for sure. It's just a completely different atmosphere – Australia has a real sense of community that is really hard to replicate anywhere else. I feel whenever you see Australians overseas you have like an instant connection – it's important to them. I'm probably a little biased, but they're just unlike any other people in the rest of the world. Obviously, also the Aussie beaches are beautiful and I'm really sorry if I offend anyone from California, but your beaches have nothing on Australian beaches. There's nothing like home and all my friends I bring out to Australia agree it's a lot better than they could ever possibly imagine.

What is the best thing about being a model and influencer?
Just the sense of freedom it gives me, which I've really just become so incredibly grateful for. I'm able to work from wherever I want to in the world, I'm able to travel and make money wherever, I'm able to go see my family in Australia for a month and work at the same time. I just feel incredibly lucky to be in this position.

You've a huge fan base – over three million followers on Instagram alone. How do you keep them coming back for more?
I don't know why they follow me, to be honest, I'm really such a boring person! *[laughs]* I've been trying to figure it out for years. I mean, I feel like it's the bikini photos maybe? I don't know. Growing up in Australia on the Gold Coast, I was just in a bikini every day – kind of by default – it wasn't something that I tried to grow. Anyone who grows up on the Gold Coast knows that you are in a bikini for nine months of the year. So, that's kind of how it started and I've been really fortunate through work to be able to travel to some of the most beautiful places in the world – and I think people like to see and follow this. Before social media people didn't know about these places but now they see people travel to places they've never thought of before.

Tell us about being on OnlyFans.
I love it. I've been modelling and on social media for years now and the power was all with the brands I was working with. OnlyFans has given me complete freedom of the kind of things I want to post, the content I want to make and it's really put all the power back into the creator's hands. It's a really incredible platform, especially for women.



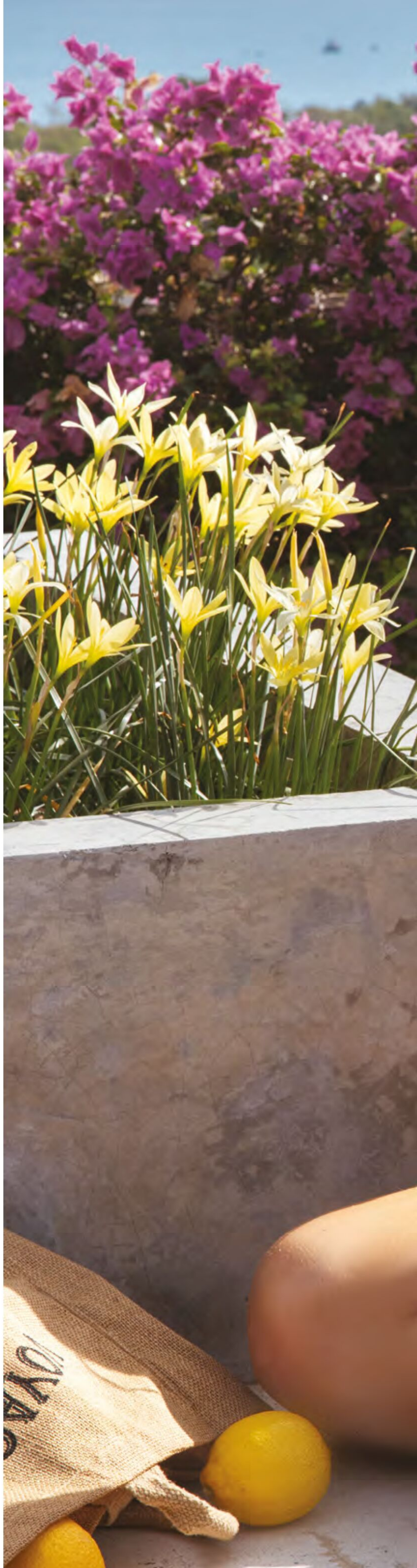
What content can someone expect to see when they subscribe to your OnlyFans?
You're just going to have to go there and find out *[smiles]*.

What's the most popular request you get from your followers?
I post a lot more of my everyday life on my OnlyFans. It's a very raw version of me that I don't really like posting to my other social media accounts. It's the most vulnerable side of me.

Is there anything you would never do in front of the camera?
Never say never.

What do you say to the haters and critics who think your social media feed is too raunchy or racy?
My mum would agree with you *[laughs]*. I feel like if you don't like something, just move on. It's the Internet – I find a million things I don't like every day, so just keep moving on people.





"I'm not very sensitive and I'm definitely good at laughing at myself, which is what you need in social media because everyone else will laugh at you."

"If 14-year-old Gabby with braces, a gapped tooth and just no sense of style could see me now – she wouldn't believe it."

You've made many headlines over the years – what's the most surprising thing you've read about yourself in the press?
Oh, God, there's so many! They're all really surprising – like articles about the type of bikini or dress I wear... Yeah, I mean there's so many more interesting things in the world to talk about.

Describe your ideal man.
Oh, easy – my crush, like forever, has been Phil Dunphy from *Modern Family*. Without question. I mean, I have a different favourite fictional characters, but in terms of an ideal man – he is it. So, men, if you haven't watched *Modern Family*, watch it and... step the f—k up. After all, the way to a woman's heart is to make her laugh.

Where could a man take you on a date?
Hmm, I'm not really sure. I'm the kind of person on a date who lays out all the red flags so you know exactly what you're getting into and there's no miscommunication later. Definitely don't take me to do something competitive. The last first date I went on was bowling and it didn't end well.

What's one thing men should always remember about women?
How much time do you have? I think how much women appreciate the little things. Men think romance always has to be huge, grand gestures and it's just too unattainable for them to do. Romance is like remembering my coffee order or, if I've had like a big night out, making me a Berocca or a toasted cheese sandwich when I'm hungover. It's all the little things that are the most important.

What's next for you?
I'm really excited to spend more time in Australia with family and friends – it will forever be my home. I spent a month in Australia at the beginning of the year and hopefully I'll be moving back permanently by the end of this year. ■



STATUS UPDATE

FULL NAME:
Gabrielle Grace Epstein

BORN:
February 19

HOME TOWN:
Gold Coast, Qld

LIVES:
Los Angeles, California USA

FIVE WORD SELF-DESCRIPTION:
"antiand issinve roriate aut fugias excepror molorit ulparum "

LIFE MOTTO:
"'If I don't have some cake soon, I might die.' – Stanley Hudson."

TWITTER:
@GabbyEpstein1

TIKTOK:
@@gabbyepstein99

SNAPCHAT/ONLYFANS/ INSTAGRAM:
@gabbyepstein

WEBSITE:
snipfeed.co/gabbyepstein

LIFE *in the* FAST LANE

This season's top F1 cars are more menacing and competitive than ever...

By NICOLAS STECHER





In the 2022 season of Formula One the apex motorsport ushered in the most extensive vehicle changes in its history, revolutionising the sport with a hard spending cap (US$140-million per team for 2022, with various adjustments for 2023), and ostensibly leveling the field for parity. This goal of equalisation was largely realised as one of the most exciting, down-to-the-wire seasons created shifts across the grid – with Ferrari edging itself above Mercedes-AMG Petronas for the first time in a decade, Alpine Renault finally cracking the top four, and Alfa Romeo moving up three slots thanks partly to the addition of AMG veteran Valtteri Bottas jumping in the driver's seat.

For 2023 the rule changes are much more subtle, meaning constructors can add to last year's machines instead of reimagining them from the ground up. After several races, some major talking points materialised, headlines drafted in smoldering rubber. Although as everyone knows in F1 teams can make major in-season developments to their racecars that can potentially shift a season around dramatically – or see them lapped by more nimble competitors. Here we run down four of the most promising teams on the Grand Prix circuit, their new cars and what we can expect from 2023.

Scuderia Ferrari

Between last season and the current one, few teams have experienced as dynamic vicissitudes as the legendary Scuderia from Maranello. To start the year, last season's F1-75 racecar blew the competition away looking like the fastest car on the grid by far. In-season improvements from Red Bull and AMG-Petronas tightened the competition, with the former leapfrogging Ferrari and knocking them to a second-place

This page (top): The new Scuderia Ferrari SF-23 racer; ***Bottom:*** Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF FERRARI



"The SF-23 car is an evolution of the one we raced last year, but in reality, it was all completely redesigned."

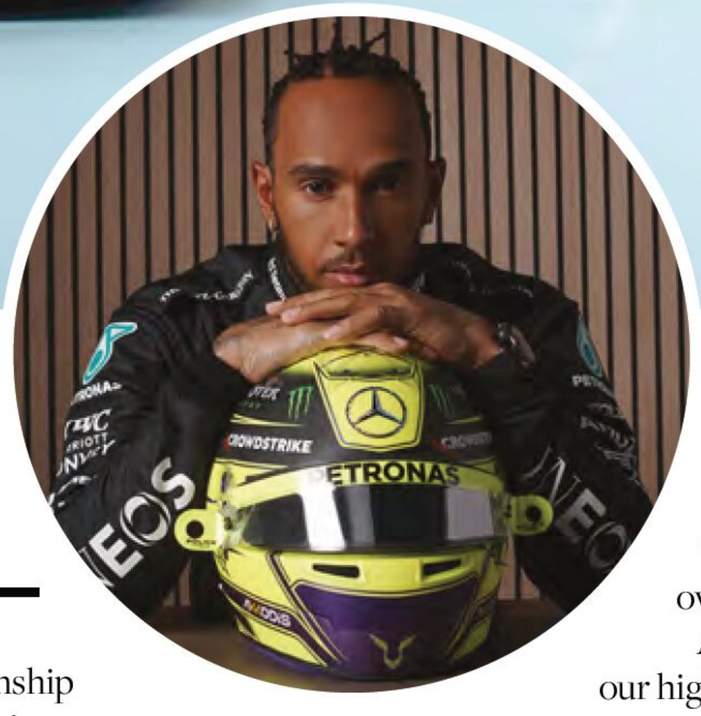


Constructor's finish. So which direction is the team headed in 2023? "The SF-23 car is an evolution of the one we raced last year, but in reality, it was all completely redesigned," Enrico Cardile tells us of 2023 improvements. Ferrari's F1 Head of Chassis Area highlights major changes to the front wing and construction of the nose, as well as more extreme aero bodywork. Results so far have been mixed. While the SF-23 performs excellently in qualifying trim (including earning a pole in Baku), Cardile admits his vehicle is more difficult to drive on Sundays as it's "particularly sensitive" to differences in weight and tire compounds.

"This makes it more difficult for the drivers to run at a consistent pace and so it's harder for them to take an aggressive approach during the Grand Prix," Cardile reveals. "We have made progress since the start of the season, but there's still a lot of work to do so that Carlos [Sainz] and Charles [Leclerc] can be as aggressive as they would like to be in the races." The Ferrari engineer concedes that "one team is clearly ahead of all the others," so the famed Scuderia is focused on beating the next tier of teams. "Our mid-term goal is to be quickest," Cardile adds, "but given the current hierarchy I think it's important that we continue to fight with Mercedes and Aston Martin and regularly finish ahead of them in the races."



Mercedes-AMG Petronas



Last season was the first that Mercedes-AMG Petronas did not win the Constructor's Championship since 2013, and its second consecutive year not taking the Driver's Championship after a decade of ruthless dominance. Needless to say 2023 is a huge year for the team and CEO Toto Wolff, so we let the candid tactician tell it to us straight: "We have worked to improve the overall aerodynamic performance, to make it more versatile across a wider range of circuits, although the opening race showed we still have a deficit in this area," Wolff tells us. "Since the first race we have looked deeply into the data to understand what improvements we can make – as well as assessing the fundamentals of our approach to aerodynamic development, to see if we have taken a wrong path. It has been an openminded approach, because it's clear that we still have a significant gap to the front of the field. But that's something we are determined to close over the coming months."

As far as progress? "We're not in a place where our high expectations would want us to be right now, given that we made some good steps in the right direction last year," the CEO admits. "We now need to ask ourselves some tough questions and find out how we ended up in our current situation, and what we're going to do to change it. We need to put our heads together, we need to stay humble, and leave no stone unturned to find performance." Wolff adds that, "Difficult times like these are when you dig deep, and questioning ourselves is the most important thing to bring us back to where we want to be.

"Our expectation is always to be capable of fighting for a World Championship. Racing at the front requires resilience, teamwork,

This page (top): Lewis Hamilton, fellow driver George Russell, Team Principal and CEO Toto Wolff and other key members of the Mercedes-AMG Petronas F1 campaign; ***Above:*** Hamilton flaunting his signature style

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF AMG MERCEDES

"We will do everything we can in the chase for every millisecond."

and determination," he relates of starting any new season. "We face up to every challenge, we put the Team first, and we will do everything we can in the chase for every millisecond. We had high hopes and





expectations for this year, but what we've seen during pre-season test and the first race in Bahrain was that our car performance is not where we wanted it to be and Bahrain Grand Prix confirmed this."

Now, "the challenge is one of learning as fast as we can to get to the front. We're being very realistic and fighting for the Championships will be a difficult challenge in 2023 – but a challenge we are not ready to give up on, because in motorsport everything is possible. Each of our team members is a racer – and that means giving it everything we've got, every lap we are on track. We know it is a long and hard road that we need to travel, but we have everything we need to get to the top."

Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant



"Last year we started the season with a sub-optimal package – and we spent much of the year transforming the AMR22 into a competitive car," Mike Krack, Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant's Team Principal, tells Maxim. Under Krack's first year of leadership Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant has demonstrated the most dramatic turnaround in all F1, skyrocketing from a seventh-place finish in 2022 to currently second behind only Red Bull. The poduim-worthy performance of newly added former two-time F1 Champion Fernando Alonso has been the most remarkable storyline thus far in 2023.

"For 2023 we were very clear about wanting to hit the ground running; to get a lot of the key development work done before the first test so we could really focus on adding performance across the season," continues Krack. "The midfield in Formula One is so tight that it's easy to lose ground if you fall behind in the development race, so that was really our number one aim with AMR23."

Aston Martin's turnaround is especially remarkable given the preseason speed bumps confronting the team, including driver Lance Stroll crashing his bicycle in a training accident, severely damaging his hands. Luckily for the team, reserve driver Felipe Drugovich kept the seat warm for Stroll to return just in time for the season kickoff at the Bahrain Grand Prix.

"It's hard to make predictions for the year ahead after just one race – but it was incredibly satisfying to earn a podium finish at the first race.

This page (top): The new Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant AMR 23 F1 racer; ***Above:*** Aston Martin driver Fernando Alonso has propelled the fledgling team to the podium; ***Opposite page:*** The new car assumes its place in the paddock; prepping for the start of a race

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF ASTON MARTIN

"Formula One is so tight that it's easy to lose ground if you fall behind in the development race, so that was really our number one aim with AMR23."





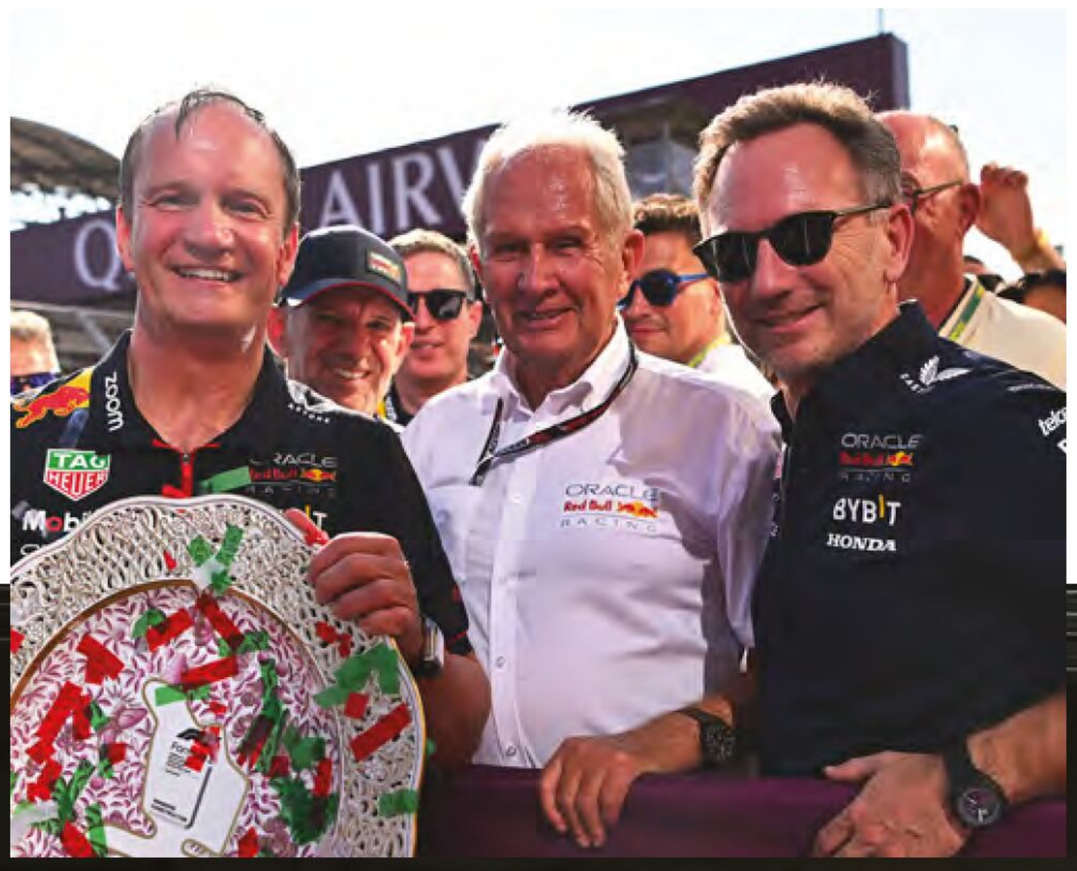
It was a tremendous reward for the whole team after a tough 2022 and incredibly busy winter," adds the freshly minted Team Principal. "Can I predict more podium finishes? No, in a highly competitive environment such as F1 you cannot and should not make such predictions, but we always take things one race at a time." It should be noted it didn't take Aston Martin Cognizant long to secure its next podium, as Alonso has done so in nearly every race thus far (as of press time).

Oracle Red Bull Racing

"We expect to be fighting for both championships, and our aim is to finish 1 and 2 in the Drivers' Championship," Pierre Wache tells us. There's ample reason for the Oracle Red Bull Racing Technical Director's brimming confidence: last year they won their second consecutive Driver's Championship with Max Verstappen, and captured their first Constructor's Championship since 2013 thanks to both Max and Sergio Perez's superb driving.

For 2023, Wache lists his engineers' priorities for their RB19 racecar focusing on weight reduction, recovering aerodynamic losses due to 2023 rule changes, and improving overall aero efficiency (lift/drag) for greater speed on long straights. Another detail the Technical Director mentions is improving the suspension to better handle hitting the curb without compromising aero, a situation Wache admits other teams handled better in 2022.

And how's it going so far in 2023? Well after only seven races (as of press time) it's fair to say Oracle Red Bull Racing is laying some serious rubber out of the gates – scoring 1-2 finishes in every GP except Australia and Monaco, and capturing a commanding lead in both the Driver's and Constructor's Championships. "RB19 weight reduction and efficiency were a success," Wache says of the early returns. "The [curbing] performance is difficult to assess yet having only run at two venues so far in 2023, we will see if our development will match our simulation in future events.... Our recovery for rules changes were not as good as expected; however, it looks like our competitors struggled even more than us."





Clockwise (from top left): Red Bull Racing Head of Car Engineering Paul Monaghan, Red Bull Racing Team Consultant Dr Helmut Marko and Red Bull Racing Team Principal Christian Horner celebrate in parc ferme during the F1 Grand Prix of Hungary; Max Verstappen of the Netherlands driving the Oracle Red Bull Racing RB19, makes a pitstop during the F1 Grand Prix at Hungaroring in Budapest, Hungary last July; Oracle Red Bull Racing car

"Our recovery for rules changes were not as good as expected; however, it looks like our competitors struggled even more than us."



THE SPEED DEMON

Sergio "Checo" Perez, the marvel from Mexico, talks about his steady rise to the top of the F1 grid...

Just three years ago Sergio Perez was on the cusp of losing his seat on the Formula One grid. Beloved in Mexico, and most fervently in his hometown of Guadalajara, the world whispered that 2020 could be his last in the apex motorsport. Then came the Sakhir Grand Prix, where "Checo" miraculously climbed from last place on the grid to first, securing his first checkered flag for Racing Point – and also breaking the record for the most F1 starts (190) before notching a win. It was the stuff of Disney movies and schoolboy dreams.

Steadiness, determination, patience and a fiery passion to win are what defines the career of Sergio Perez. That off-season Red Bull Racing's Christian Horner announced they were picking him up to match with Max Verstappen, and the rest has been a history of podiums – five in 2021 (including a victory in Azerbaijan) and a stunning 11 in 2022 (while capturing victories in both Monaco and Singapore). And 2023 is going even stronger for Perez, after he captured his second checkered flag in Baku – also winning the Saudi Arabia Grand Prix and podiuming in Miami and Bahrain.

As of press time he sits second, 125 points back from teammate, current and two-time World Champion Max Verstappen; a 2023 Drivers Championship is still in play. We sat down with the beloved Mexican driver to discuss his long road to the top, his favourite things to do in Guadalajara, and what it's like to race every day for RBR alongside Verstappen.



"I want the World Championship and that's my ultimate target... Every single race I will try my best to come out on top."

Mexico doesn't boast a robust racing ecosystem like Europe or the United States. What were the challenges stemming from that?
Yeah certainly it's hard to leave your country behind, your culture, and to change completely to work from a new place. It was tough especially as I was pretty young [15 years old], but I did enjoy a lot the challenge. [But] ever since I was a kid I always started racing and it was always my dream to become a professional driver.

Are you fulfilling what you need to do? When it comes to your place in Mexico's history, do you feel that your legend / is growing there?
I really believe that it's growing and it's something I enjoy a lot. And I'm really privileged to have this amount of support back home.

Was last year your most rewarding as a professional driver?
Not really, because my expectations are always to win. It was the highest I've reached so far, but I want to go higher than that – I want the World Championship and that's my ultimate target. It was nice to win a few races, but ultimately I want to do another step.

What would you say has been your finest moment in F1 thus far?
My victories in F1 have all been very special, but just to look back and see how many years I've been in the sport – every single year it takes a lot of preparation out of you, a lot of commitment. It's something that I feel proud of.

Was Sakhir one of those moments you felt like, 'Hell yeah. All that work came down to this'?
Certainly. Getting my first victory was super special. It's something that you always dream of and especially at the time that it happened, when I didn't really know where my future was heading, it was really nice to win the victory. So whatever happened I already had the victory in the pocket.

Did it make you cry?
Not really. But then God I remember this, just when I was on the podium there are a lot of emotions and a lot of adrenaline going on at the time. Some teams have a more established number one, and then usually the car is built more around their driving style.

I've read [former RBR driver] Alex Albon talk about how Max [Verstappen] really likes the nose of the car to be hypersensitive, things of that nature. How do you as a veteran driver adapt to a car whose driving style might be slightly engineered towards somebody else, and how do you make it your own?
You always try to adapt yourself the best possible you can. It's something that you work constantly weekend by weekend with your engineers to try to get the maximum out of it – to try to feel the most comfortably possible with the car.... [This year] it certainly seems to be a better car for me. I'm a little bit more happier and I'm enjoying it a little bit more.

You have aspirations to be World Champion. What's it like both amicably and professionally to every day go to battle with Max, who many consider the fastest guy on the grid?
Well certainly Max is a very talented guy. He has a lot of talent and he's shown a great talent through the years. So I'd say that at the moment he's the driver most in form together with the team. I think he's operating at a very high level.

OK a couple of Mexico questions because I'm a huge fan. Tequila or mezcal?
Tequila! Patrón Silver. With still water and lemon, on the rocks.

You're like the Lionel Messi of Guadalajara, it must be like a zoo when you're there.
It certainly is. I mean you learn how to live with it, that is part of your job as well. But at the same time when you are off, you just want to be alone and be able to be with your kids. Just enjoy them and not being asked to do things you don't want to do.

What are your expectations for the 2023 season?
Red Bull have a super fast car this year. I will give it my all. Every single race I will try my best to come out on top. That's my target. ■

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF RED BULL RACING

GIRL NEXT DOOR

Introducing...

KELLY DAYMOND

Time to get more acquainted with this down-to-earth Australian model, hairdresser, former flight attendant and seasoned traveller filled with a side of cheeky...

Photographed by ROCKY BACHELOR
Interview by PARIS RAINE

elcome, Kelly. Give us a little more background about yourself.
I grew up in New Zealand and my first job was hairdressing, becoming qualified at 19. I then decided to move to Sydney, on a whim, and ended up living there for 13 happy years. Whilst in Sydney I started modelling and featured in numerous magazines as well as TV, but I left to become a flight attendant for Gulf Air in Bahrain. I love the travelling life but after a few years in the Middle East I left to live in Cyprus, where I modelled and worked at events. I started entering fitness competitions as a hobby and competed in the UK where I also lived for a while. I returned to Australia in 2015 and his is home for me now.

That's a lot of moving! How would you describe yourself in five words?
Fun, positive, spontaneous, caring, sociable.

What do you love most about yourself?
I love my cheeky, fun personality. I'm also very down to earth which I think often surprises people when they first meet me.

What is one of your weird quirks?
I constantly pace around the house when I'm on the phone and I don't really like video calls.

What is the first thing you do when you get up in the morning?
Check my phone to see what day it is – LOL!

What's the first thing you notice when it comes to the opposite gender?
I firstly notice the way a man carries himself, his style and smile.

What do you think is the most attractive quality in a man?
Definitely confidence. I like a man to be comfortable in his own skin and who is someone that is driven.

What impresses you on a first date?
A nice bottle of wine or champagne is a good start, and I like a guy who can hold a good conversation and is quick witted.

What's one piece of advice you would give to a man?
If you wear cologne, no-one should smell it from five feet away or five minutes after you leave the room.

Describe your ideal guy in one sentence.
I really love a fun, fit guy with a good sense of humour.

What's your guilty pleasure?
Pick 'n' mix! I've always loved making up a big bag of mixed lollies and usually eat way too many!

What words do you live by?
Stay fun-loving and appreciate life.

Lastly, what is one major thing you want to accomplish by the end of this year?
The end of the year seems a bit short sighted. A longer-term objective is to have some more overseas holidays and to be featured in MAXIM again in the future would be great! ■



“I love my cheeky, fun personality. I’m also very down to earth which I think often surprises people when they first meet me.”

“I like a man to be comfortable in his own skin and who is someone that is driven.”

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Kelly Maree Daymond

BORN:
October 21

HOME TOWN:
Gold Coast Qld

ONLYFANS:
@whiteangel1

FACEBOOK:
@kdaymond

TWITTER:
@KellyDaymond

INSTAGRAM:
@kelly_daymond2

Make-up by
ANGE WALTON
Hair by
SOCAL SALON

ROSALIE JACKSON

The *MAXIM Australia Women of the World Official 2023 Calendar* is the perfect gift for you and/or your mates. Featuring twelve gorgeous international models, this month we give you awesome September stunner Rosalie...



STATUS UPDATE

BORN:
September 4

LIVES:
Los Angeles, California

HOME TOWN:
Oregon USA

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Passionate, loyal, happy, dreamer, adventurous."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Not all storms come to disrupt your life. Some come to clear your path."

INSTAGRAM:
@RosalieJ_



The MAXIM Australia/NZ *Women of the World Official 2023 Calendar* is available in newsagents RRP $19.95

Champ Chad

They say true champions eat pressure. If that be true, for 20 years **CHAD REED** chewed it up, spat it out and asked for more – and more. We take a look back at the legendary Aussie motocross and supercross racer's illustrious career...

By DARRYL FLACK

When Chad Reed came into this world, Supercross had been around for a decade. Twenty-years later he would become one of its great legends, and hold a special place as the only rider from the southern hemisphere to win the Supercross world championship.

Like many of his generation, Chad Reed started out aboard a Yamaha PW50. When he showed promise the Reed family moved to a property outside Kurri Kurri, where they lived in a caravan because they couldn't afford a house. Proud of his Indigenous heritage, young Chad was touched by a burning ambition that would light up the sky. Former pro rider Danny Ham remembers practising with 14-year-old Reed, who left school in Year 9. "Chad didn't really act like a junior," Ham says. "He was already riding as if he wanted to beat us. He really was on a mission and knew exactly where he wanted to go and what he wanted to achieve."

When Reed joined Suzuki and turned pro aged 16, the team practised at the aptly named Crazers near Newcastle. "It was this bad-ass, natural-terrain track," Chad told former pro racer Lee Hogan. "In one week, I went through three practice bikes. In two of those days, I went through two brand-new bikes." It's when you hear stories like this that you begin to understand how Chad Reed thrived in the dog-eat-dog world of American Supercross, the epicentre of the sport and home to its world championship.

How tough is American Supercross? It pays to go back to the sport's beginnings. The first big-time stadium motocross was staged at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1972. Riders blasted through famous arches before making the big jump down to the infield as the sun-drenched moto rats in the bleachers lapped it up. Promoters called it the Superbowl of Motocross, later truncated to Supercross. After the huge success of the 1973 event, Supercross spread around the globe.

It also pays to understand why American riders became almost unbeatable, further underlining Chad's remarkable success. Before Supercross took off in the mid-1970s, American motocross riders were schooled on their own turf by imperious European champions. "I remember when Pierre Karsmakers first came over, we almost got into a fist fight down in Florida," Kawasaki USA factory rider Jim Weinert remembered. "I was going for first American and this guy was running into me and things. I heard him yelling and screaming and I said, 'Oh, wow' and let him pass. He came over to me after the race and says, 'You should have moved over. I'm the Dutch champion and I'm faster than you' and all this, and I'm going, 'Hey, I don't give a damn who you are! I'm out here racing trying to be first American!'"

For such a proud sporting nation, this would've been hard to take. But the Americans were smart. They learned from the Europeans and began schooling them. The best teenage prospects were signed to extraordinary contracts. The son of a Californian fireman, Marty Smith inked cool a deal with American Honda in 1974 when he was aged 17. His high-school ride was a Porsche 930 Turbo, a 911 his back-up. With so much at stake, ruthless team tactics came into play. When one-time boxer Rex Staten joined Team Honda, he'd sidle up to Smith before each race and ask, "Which one of dem guys do you want me to take out?"

The riches in American Supercross drove an intensity to win greater



"[Chad] really was on a mission and knew exactly where he wanted to go and what he wanted to achieve."

"Chad was such a well-rounded athlete. His strongest traits were his raw speed and his willingness to ride through adversity."



than any other theatre of motorcycle racing. It stepped up when Bob Hannah hit the pro ranks a year after Marty Smith. As he sat beside his old nemesis in a 2007 documentary, Hannah said he hated Smith because he had snatched the 1977 AMA 125cc title away from him and the US$50,000 championship bonus that went with it after Hannah broke a throttle cable. Asked what drove him, Hannah said, "I came from the desert, Jimmy Weinert came from a junkyard. If my dad was rich, I would've never made it in Supercross – I would've been too lazy."

Hannah washed dishes, loaded chickens and welded. His opponents never worked a day in their lives. He rode bicycles, jogged and ran track. No-one was fitter. The rags-to-riches mythology, so redolent in boxing, has been part of US Supercross ever since.

Yamaha surprised pundits when it signed 19-year-old Hannah, who was unknown outside SoCal. But nothing prepared the big names when Hurricane Hannah hit town. He strutted around the start gate and trash talked like a well-worn champ. Looking back, Hannah says, "I was a cocky bastard." He backed it up with seven US championships and 70 national wins, records that stood for 20 years. It was into this cesspit of greed and cut-throat hostility that Chad Reed stepped into in 2002. It was a cesspit that had spooked other Aussie riders.

Australia's best motocrosser in the 1980s Jeff Leisk scored an entry into the season-opening US Supercross Championship at Anaheim. He was leading the 250cc last-chance qualifier with just a few corners to go when he was T-boned by another rider. "No rider in Australia would ever make that move," proclaimed Leisk. "Another time Billy Liles' bike landed on my head after he tried to clear a monster double jump, breaking my jaw."

In the late 1990s Chad's close friend and rival, the late Andrew McFarlane, also tried his luck. It was a humbling experience. At each round there were 200 riders entered wanting to get through to the 20- man final. Dozens of local kids would come out of every little nook, every back block, to have a shot at the big time. "In Australia, there might be five guys you gotta beat to get to the final. In America it was like 30," McFarlane said.

US Supercross was a tough nut to crack for any foreigner. Reed had won the 1999 and 2000 Australian Supercross Championships, but that meant nothing in America. After a mute response from the US, Chad headed to Europe to contest the world motocross championship, admitting "It's not as cut throat." Still, conquering America was the end game. "I didn't dream of racing in Europe, all I ever dreamed of was going to America." By 2000 the great Bob Hannah had taken a very dim view of American Supercross. With the exception of seven-time winner Jeremy McGrath, Hannah labelled it "weak and embarrassing". There were some fast guys on the horizon who would soon change his mind.

Aged 18, Reed finished a brilliant second on debut in the 2001 World 250cc Motocross Championship, including a GP win. It was a minor blimp on the radar in Supercross-crazed America, but allied with his two Aussie Supercross crowns and an ultra-aggressive win over Travis Pastrana, it was enough. Chad made his treasured move to the US in 2002 with the top-ranked Yamaha of Troy team. He dominated the East Coast 125cc Supercross Championship, winning seven of the eight rounds and turning heads at the highest levels. It turned even more heads in Australia. One of its own had won an important Supercross title in America.

Reed signed with the Yamaha factory team to contest the 2003 US Supercross Championship. There were murmurs about this fast and determined kid from Down Under, but nothing prepared them for what happened next. Reed won eight races to Supercross legend Ricky Carmichael's seven, turning the Supercross world on its head. It should've been a fairy-tale start to his US career, but Chad finished seven points behind Carmichael to finish a shattering second. What happened?

"At the beginning of the season I started off so well,' Chad explained. "I won the first race by 25 seconds. I was the one everybody wanted to beat. I think I kinda got caught up in all that. I didn't like Ricky. I didn't like his attitude, so I was racing Ricky rather than racing the track. I just wanted to beat him

Opposite (top): Chad regularly performed in front of indoor crowds of up to 60,000 spectators; ***Opposite (bottom)*** Chad holds the record, with 132 world Supercross championship podiums. This was his 131st, secured in Atlanta, Georgia in 2016, after he finished third behind Marvin Musquin and race winner Ryan Dungey

that bad that I was making dumb choices. In Minneapolis I was two seconds faster than anyone but crashed twice, broke my bike and finished sixth. If I had just played it smart – ran just a second faster than everyone, kept it on two wheels and won the race – it would've been my championship."

Carmichael earlier had a meltdown after he went down in a collision with Chad's teammate Tim Ferry in Salt Lake City, angrily accusing Ferry of doing's Reed's dirty work. Ferry denied the accusation. With Carmichael away focusing on winning one of his seven US motocross titles, Chad made up for the one that got away by dominating the 2004 US Supercross Championship, securing 10 races and never finishing off the podium. He was runner-up to Carmichael in the motocross championship.

Reed's first US Supercross world crown mirrored Wayne Gardner's historic win in the 1987 World 500cc Championship, but with an important difference. Australians had been contesting road racing's Continental Circus for decades. Many top Aussies joined the circus in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, resulting in three world titles. In Supercross, the Americans' money-hungry intensity was almost too much for any foreigner to handle. It took someone of Chad's considerable mettle to do it. Before Reed, no Aussie had ever been good enough to run near the front let alone ink a factory contract in American Supercross. Some of Australia's best made good showings; others were overwhelmed. What Chad's victory underscores is his sheer self-belief to take on America's best and beat them.

Reed was the only foreigner to figure at the pointy end in US Supercross from 2002 to 2013, when German ace Ken Roczen became a serious contender. Fellow Aussie Michael Byrne was a factory team rider during Chad's era, claiming 10 top-three finishes without a race win. There are but a handful of Brazilians, Japanese and other nationalities having a go. The field is 95 per cent USA. In the NBA, foreigners make up 23 per cent of the player population. Chad's unique success also demonstrates that Immortals have the superior mental and learning skills to evolve into complete athletes. Jeff Spencer is a long-time American physical trainer and sports psychologist who worked with the likes of Bob Hannah and Chad Reed.

In selecting his clients, Spencer says, "What's important to me is how a rider thinks. There are a lot of people who have willpower and talent but end up going nowhere. When someone has the potential to really understand the dynamics of what it takes to evolve and mature as an athlete and sustain a career, that's the first thing I look for." He couldn't have hoped for a better student than Chad Reed.

After Chad made it in the US with his then fiancée now wife Ellie, he quickly hooked up with Americana. He bought two homes – one in California near Yamaha's test track, and another in Florida, also known for its myriad training courses. A year or so into his stateside adventure, Reed had picked up a distinctive American accent. Asked how that happened so quickly, he said restaurant waiters had trouble understanding his Aussie twang so he began talking the local lingo. It stuck.

As an outsider, Chad garnered a small but vocal band of American fans. They admired his mojo for coming to their backyard and giving as good as he got against the white-hot locals. By then, the rewards for his achievements were flowing. In a teleconference with Australian motorsport journalists in 2004, Will Hagon casually asked Reed how much he was earning. Most athletes demur on these sorts of questions, but Chad answered Hagon just as nonchalantly.

"Seven million."

"A year?"

"A year..."

Chad was also asked about the prospect of facing off against the hottest new rider on the circuit, James Stewart, who had replicated what Chad had done – winning the East Coast 125cc Championship. African-American Stewart was a star in the making, able to ride at 11/10ths and somehow manage to stay in control. When it was put to Chad that Stewart's high-risk style might be a problem on a big 450, Chad agreed, "It could be, it could be..." Chad was eager to find any chinks in the Stewart armour. Why? "Right from the beginning, there was bad blood with James," Reed said. Both two-time US Supercross Champions, Reed and Stewart would stage many bitterly fought battles over the years, including the first 20-lap final of 2009.

To understand how big the Reed-Stewart rivalry had become, I took in the action at Anaheim Stadium in Los Angeles for the annual opening round of the AMA/FIM World Supercross Championship. The energy of the huge crowd of 50,000 was visceral – even before the racing started. This was US Supercross racing at its zaniest best.

Defending Champ Reed had dominated the 2008 AMA/FIM World Supercross title with nine wins from 15 rounds to claim his second crown. Reed had defeated Honda's workman-like Kevin Windham in 2008, and 2009 was shaping up as a four-way battle between Reed, Windham, Stewart and rookie sensation Ryan Villopoto. It was a mouth-watering prospect, and all the fans knew it. There was extra pressure because after so much success with Yamaha, Reed was now saddling up with Rockstar



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Darryl Flack has worked as editor at *Australian Motorcycle News*, was the Australian correspondent for MotoGP.com and freelanced for *Two Wheels*, *REVS*, *Cycle Torque*, Britain's *Motor Cycle News* and US weekly *Cycle News*. He's also interviewed the great racers of the world, track tested the latest models at Phillip Island, Sydney Motor Sport Park and Amaroo Park and dabbled in road racing, enduro and trials competition.



"Chad was looking at me... I was staring him right in his eyes just in case he flinched and I had to knock him out."

Makita Suzuki. At 7pm the lights went down and the crowd erupted, and finally it was down to the racing. The support American Supercross fans give their favourite riders and the racing in general is simply unbelievable. From the first heat there were cheers, moans and gasps for every spill, near spill, short jump, block pass, attempted block pass, and anything that looked like leading up to a block pass. A successful block pass – no matter if it was for first or 21st – just about brought the house down.

As the stars lined up for the 20-lap final, the entire crowd stood when the 30-second board went up and it was on. When Reed nailed Stewart on the second lap, the place went bananas. Stewart snatched the lead back next time around and the volume went up a notch. At the height of their scrap, the speed and smoothness with which Chad transitioned from the final jump into a giant berm was other-worldly. Then it all went south.

As the battle reached breaking point, Reed's front tyre clipped Stewart's rear wheel. Both riders went down. The noisy crowd went quiet. A dazed Stewart picked up his bike, which was then struck by Windham, who was sent sprawling into the Tuff Blocks. A despondent Stewart couldn't restart his twisted bike and angrily trudged off. Chad continued with no front brake to claim a gutsy third. By the time Chad was interviewed most of the crowd had gone, but a small band of loyal fans had hung around cheering everything Chad said, especially his declaration to stand on the top box next time. Then Stewart went on a seven-race tear. Determined to peg the Floridian back, the Reed-Stewart enmity turned white hot in Jacksonville, Florida. The pair clashed furiously in the berms and almost collided in the air. Stewart won the 20-lap war. Chad was angry.

On the slow-down lap he grabbed the back of Stewart's neck after he had stopped to acknowledge his fans. Chad warned Stewart, "Don't cross jump me! We can take each other out on the ground, you can T-bone me, but cross jumping in the air is not cool!" Then they got in each other's face on the podium. "Chad was looking at me... looking through me," remembers Stewart, "and I was staring him right in his eyes just in case he flinched and I had to knock him out."

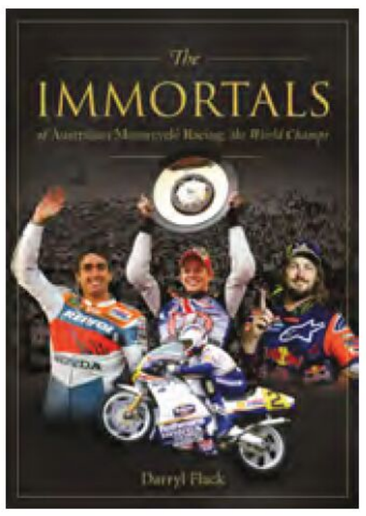
The title chase was a close-run thing. Stewart won the 2009 championship by just four points, but Reed captured the always-tough US Motocross Championship with a dominant season-long performance. He also won the Monster Energy Triple Crown. At the Phoenix round the following year, Chad put a regulation block pass on James. They collided, Stewart's bike landing Reed regularly contested the outdoor US Motocross Championship. The Immortals of Australian Motorcycle Racing · 144 awkwardly on Reed's left hand. Reed remounted but soon pulled in when he realised there was something very wrong with his broken duke. An enraged Stewart finished 15th. After the race he barged into Reed's pit and pushed Chad's bike over.

In 2008 Chad partnered Michael Porra in successfully revamping the Australian Supercross Championship, rebadged Super-X. Chad contested all three years of the series alongside guest riders Carmichael and Villopoto, clean sweeping them. Reed enjoyed enormous longevity in off-road motorcycling's most competitive theatre. Along the way he survived many crashes, the biggest his horrifying launch from a Millville, Minnesota jump in 2011 that ejected Reed six metres into the air. Landing hard and lying motionless, he amazingly sprang to his feet, kicked his Honda into life and stormed through from 34th to 14th, rival pit crews waving him on.

Over his long career in the US, Reed rode multiple brands – Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki, Honda and KTM. He also owned his own teams. One of his sponsors was the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Reed went back-to-back in the US Open in 2003-04, won a bronze medal in the 2005 X-Games and secured the prestigious 2007 King of Bercy Supercross in Paris, only the second non-European to do so. He joined greats Pierre Karsmakers and Jean-Michel Bayle as the only non-American winners of the World/US Supercross Championship.

In 2011 he won a race on the way to Team Australia's historic third place in the annual Motocross of Nations. In 2018 he broke the record for most World/US Supercross race starts, and recorded his 132nd podium in 2019. It took a heavy toll on Reed's body but not his spirit. In 2006 he underwent a major shoulder operation and had numerous treatments for a torn ACL through 2012–13. In 2019 he suffered eight broken ribs, a broken scapula and a collapsed lung.

As Australia's only Supercross World Champion Chad Reed stands as possibly its most unique Immortal. His legacy is best summed up by his once-bitter rival Ricky Carmichael: "Chad was such a well-rounded athlete. His strongest traits were his raw speed and his willingness to ride through adversity." And never giving an inch. ■



This is an edited extract from **The Immortals of Motorcycle Racing: The World Champs** *by Darryl Flack (Gelding Street Press, $39.99rrp) available at Big W and all good bookstores*

Mrs. Mayaki



Founder and designer of Australia's Mayaki Swimwear, **REBECCA MAYAK**, tells us why her company was born to be different...

Interview by SANTI PINTADO

Hello, Rebecca, tell us a bit about your background.
I was born and raised in a large family in the Blue Mountains in NSW but relocated 20 years ago to be closer to the beach and a warmer lifestyle in sunny Queensland. I own and manage an award-winning insurance broking business along with Mayaki Swimwear and I want to be a strong female role model to my two daughters. I feel especially lucky to have a career that inspires them.

How did you get involved in the swimwear industry?
I really wanted to create a fashion line that was unique and timeless. I took an interest in swimwear when I noticed the gap in this market that boutique designers were not filling because at that point it was dominated by a few main brands. I wanted to push the creative boundaries for swimwear and create the sort of pieces you would wear from pool to dinner, at a luxury resort or at a pool party in Dubai. Standout statement pieces that are unique.

Tell us more about Mayaki Swimwear and what you're all about.
Mayaki is a luxury Australian resortwear label. We focus on pushing the boundaries of swimwear design to create unique timeless pieces. Like so many others, I always felt I had another calling, a burning

"We focus on pushing the boundaries of swimwear design to create unique timeless pieces."

desire that I am meant to be doing something else with my life. I've always had a love for fashion and interior design and had been toying with the idea of pursuing a career in design when I finally bit the bullet and started the company in 2019. I would sit and sketch for hours, 20 or 30 designs at once. My soul lit up and I'd finally found my creative outlet. As soon as I ordered my first batch of samplesI felt complete exhilaration. There is something about bringing your ideas to life that is so rewarding!

How do you come up with the ideas for your swimwear designs?
I often am asked this question and I always struggle to explain! The designs will come to me like a photo in my mind. I can wake up at night and sketch down something that appeared to me. Like most artists or creatives will tell you, usually you must be in the zone, relaxed and stress free – this can be hard when you're the mum of two young children, but once I open that tap and I find my Zen space I can easily design a whole collection in just a few days. Once the initial concepts come to life in the samples, I spend quite a lot of time working through the materials, design and hardware that will go on each piece.

What makes Mayaki Swimwear stand out from your competitors
We strive to be the go-to brand for beautiful swimwear that can be worn from pool to dinner party with family and friends. Pieces that are timeless and elegant and can be transformed for different occasions. I feel that a lot of the emerging designers try to stick to the same designs that are already in the market or create on trend designs which can be quickly outdated and encourage consumer waste. We make our swimwear from high quality materials to ensure longevity and most of our pieces are made from recycled Lycra, so this helps shift the industry that luxury can also be sustainable.

Is it a competitive market?
Oh absolutely! There has been an explosion of small emerging designers as well as well-known brands adding swimwear to their collections so it's noisy on the digital marketing platforms with so many new brands vying to be seen. We are a higher end luxury label, and our designs are somewhat unique so that helps us to stand out.

Finally, what advice do you have for others wanting to start their own business, like you have done?
Starting a business is not for everyone, but if you're thinking about it you probably already have the entrepreneurial spirit. As a creative I would encourage anyone to pursue their creativity and I've always found business to be very rewarding! ■

This page (clockwise from far left): Lei Lei is Mayaki's statement piece. The ribbed Italian fabric is so soft and luxurious. Featuring rouched shoulders and deep V mesh panels, this accentuates the feminine lines on the torso; Lei Lei One-Piece; Paradise Skirt; Valencia One-Piece features flattering V neck, with buttons and mesh; Maya bikini is Mayaki's warrier inspired bikini. Featuring gold clasp, adjustible straps.











MAYAKI SWIMWEAR

For more on Mayaki Swimwear go to *mayakiswimwear.com* or follow them on Instagram at *@mayakiswimwear*

Getting to know...

THE DAN DANGLER

We get up close and personal for an intimate chat with adult entertainment star, OnlyFans content creator and animal lover **DAN DANGLER**...

Photographed by RYAN DWYER
Interview by SCOTT KEENAN
Hair & make-up by TAYLOR MARTINEZ

ell us a bit about yourself, Dan.
I'm from Detroit, Michigan USA and I love saving animals. I have a tonne of rescue dogs and work closely with organisations and rescues. I've been a professional streamer for around five years on Twitch and recently became an OnlyFans content creator. I graduated magna cum laude from university with two degrees.

How did the pseudonym "Dan Dangler" come to be?
It was from when I used to play video games a lot. It sounds like a man's name, so I wanted people to see me and be confused. This way they may stay on my stream a bit longer.

What is your best asset?
My curves but also my sense of humour. I really don't like having negative vibes around so I try to stay as positive as I can. This often involves laughing with my friends and roommates.

When do you feel sexy?
When I put something new on. Something that hugs my body and fits me really well. I feel really sexy when I get compliments from others when I try really hard on a look.

Why did you decide to get into the adult entertainment industry?
I've always been an open person, someone who isn't afraid to express myself sexually. I grew up in a household where I couldn't be myself, so when I moved out I was finally allowed to be me and it was really freeing. I want to open an animal sanctuary and honestly this is the perfect way to do it for me.

What are the pros and cons of porn?
The cons are like any other job for the most part – you sometimes have co-workers who aren't your favourite to work with. The pros are you make so many friends and get to do some really cool things. Also, It's very financially stable.

What's the biggest misconception about the porn industry?
That it's gross and everyone is a horny slut. For me, I only would have sex off camera with someone I was emotionally connected to. Everyone gets tested before collabs and it's a very clean atmosphere. It's standard to talk about personal boundaries before collabs in this industry.

Got any advice for someone considering a career in the adult entertainment industry?
Make sure this is something you want to do. Take time to make your decision and only do things you're comfortable with doing.

"I'm super flexible, in a literal way and personality-wise. If there is something a guy is into, 99.99% of the time I'm down too."

What content can someone expect to see when they subscribe to your OnlyFans or exclusive content?
Personal responses from me in quick time. Collabs with some of the top names in the industry and personal connection that is completely between me and them.

What won't you do for the cameras?
OK, I know this sounds strange but some men have asked to see me use the bathroom and do scat play. However, to me it's a bit too far and way, way, way too gross.

What's the weirdest request someone has sent you?
There's too many to mention but a top three would be: 1. I've been asked to send videos of me putting mascara on my arm hair; 2. I've been asked to whip cream pie myself but that's not the weird part – it was very specific. I had to be in the shower, it had to be five whipped cream pies where I used a can to make each pie and the pies had to be rubbed in circular motions on top of my head and my butt cheeks, along with some other parts; 3. I've been sent pictures of dicks in tiny cages – this way when they get erect the dick will be in pain from the cage. So many things, I can't even mention – needless to say, feet people are pretty normal these days.

Besides the haters and constant dick pics, what else do you dislike about social media?
I'm not a fan of the hate on sexualized material. It seems that If I post a butt cheek I get flagged. I also know a lot of people who have had their accounts completely banned. I wish there was an 18+ social media platform that was mainstream.

What's the most popular request you get from your fans and followers?
They love when I record BGG. I honestly enjoy that they like it because it's one of my favourite things to shoot.

Would you ever date one of your followers?
Yes of course! As long as it was obvious they liked me for me and had no ulterior motives going on.

Describe your ideal man?
I like old-fashioned manly men – a guy who is loyal, doesn't spend all day in the gym or taking mirror selfies. A regular guy, someone who understands and shares my drive and passion for wanting to save animals.

How does a man win his way to your heart?
Respect, loyalty, trust and more. I want someone capable of taking care of me even though I can do it myself. Be patient and respectful. Women love a respectable guy who isn't too overly into them or themselves. A little mystery is great.

What's the sexiest thing a guy can do in the bedroom?
Take control. I love a man who is confident in what he is doing – someone who takes charge in the bedroom but still keeps my comfortability level respected.

What's your favourite sexual position?
I'm super flexible, in a literal way and personality wise. If there is something a guy is into, 99.99% of the time I'm down too.

Lastly, when it comes to sex what would you rate yourself out of 10?
I don't want to be cocky but recently I've gotten a lot more confident and explorative. I've been having a tonne of fun, so I will say 9.5 – LOL! ■

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Danielle Lanza

BORN:
November 5

HOME TOWN:
Detroit, Michigan USA

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Driven, determined, silly, peppy, genuine."

GO-TO DRINK:
"High Noons."

BEST HIDDEN TALENT:
"I can use my toes like my fingers."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Whatever it takes."

TWITTER/ONLYFANS/ SNAPCHAT/TIKTOK/ INSTAGRAM:
@TheDanDangler

"I love a man who is confident in what he is doing – someone who takes charge in the bedroom but still keeps my comfortability level respected."

Endurance Ride

Sensuous has delved into the world of supplements with Raging Bull capsules for added libido and long-lasting stamina...

By REILLY SULLIVAN

Sensuous has refined the art of effective endurance products when you need a little bit of extra help during sex. For years, the Aussie company's signature Raging Bull gel has assisted blokes with achieving harder and longer erections for hours of intense love making. Now, the team has expanded the range and released Raging Bull capsules to help with endurance and libido.

The world of supplements is crowded with products promising to drastically supercharge stamina from the gym to the bedroom. Still, as any health fanatic will attest, not all supplements are created equal. Sensuous is charting a new course in the supplements space by utilising years of user feedback from their products to create a new daily essential. Each Raging Bull pill packs a potent punch that combines scientifically-researched ingredients which are rooted in thousands of years of herbal medicine. One of the hero ingredients in each capsule is Tribulus terrestris extract. This powerful wonder flower is traditionally used in Ayurvedic medicine and is believed to support healthy libido in men.

Raging Bull also features Panax ginseng to support physical endurance and help you go even longer during sex. Multiple studies by South Korean scientists have linked Panax ginseng to significant improvements in sexual function. Experts suspect this powerful root's libido-lifting power comes from its ability to help the body adapt to stress.

Like any vitamin, Raging Bull only works if you remember to take it, ideally twice daily as part of your regular supplements routine. Just think of it as a special multivitamin designed to boost stamina during sex, a workout or whenever you need a jolt of energy. Wave goodbye to those off-brand pills and dodgy shakes and discover Sensuous' one-way road to greater endurance and optimum performance in bed. You are what you eat, after all. ■



Find the new Raging Bull Capsules at Coles supermarkets and discover the entire Sensuous range at SENSUOUS.COM.AU

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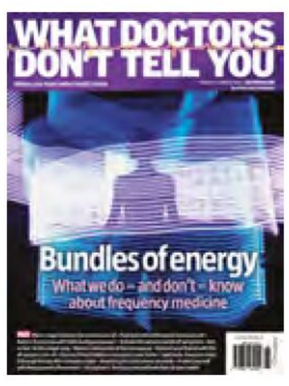
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The MAVERICK

In Argentina with the legendary **Francis Mallmann**...

By DUNCAN QUINN



I was headed to Argentina to cook with Francis Mallmann. The Francis Mallmann. The maverick chef who turned his back on decades of Michelin training to flip the culinary world on its head, winning the Grand Prix de l'Art de la Cuisine aged 40 with Argentine dishes described as "delicacies that were prepared by angels." Intellectual. Foodie. Wine lover. Fire lover. Maverick. Maniac. TV guy. Restaurant guy. All-around character. Mention this type of opportunity to any chef you like and watch them melt in rapture. For Francis Mallmann is not just a chef, but a way of living.

The inaugural Francis Mallmann cooking summit at the Siete Fuegos (seven fires) restaurant at The Vines Resort & Spa in Mendoza was my destination. The foodie equivalent of mind melding with Ayrton Senna at Monaco and learning how to really drive. I cancelled my annual African pilgrimage, juggled plane tickets, and ducked out of a rock 'n roll wedding in New York City unfashionably early to go. My cerebral cortex salivating with Malbec, meat, and other Argentine memories.

Mallmann said, "I am a cook that uses cooking to send this message of a way of living. I am always cooking in remote places in the wild with fires; so my message is get out of your chair, your sofa, your office, and go out." I heard the message. And got out of my chair and went.

After 16 hours of jet planes and a 90-minute drive through the backwaters of Argentina from Mendoza airport, I arrived via muddy roads and vineyards to my basecamp for the week: the five-star Vines Resort & Spa. The air smelled clean and fresh in a way only someone climbing out of the rat-infested garbage piles of Gotham City can appreciate, and the sheets were crisp and welcoming as I sank into an empanada-and-Malbec induced coma ready to meet the man, the myth, the legend, a few short hours later to see what the fuss was all about.

I awoke and donned what seemed to be appropriate gear for cooking outside in winter upon a magnificent vista at the base of the Andes: hiking pants and boots, army wool sweater, and a wool hat. It was a cool 40 degrees and my breath was steam. I found caffeine and parked myself at the back of the outdoor kitchen. Just in time for a bit of blurry eyed, sleep deprived, jet lagged, caffeine-deficient butchery at nine a.m. to get my morning started. All it needed was prairie oysters and a couple of amber moon cocktails for the full wild west experience.

Mallmann waltzed in just as the international chefs drawn from

ALL IMAGESCOURTESY OF THE VINES

the tentacles of his empire began their show. He was wearing his signature outfit: wide whale corduroy pants, fisherman's wool sweater, neckerchief and gaucho Tam-O-Shanter beret. A devil-may-care twinkle in his eye as he surveyed the room. The attendees a star-struck smorgasbord of foodies, wine heads, Michelinstar restaurant owners, seekers retired from tech looking for meaning on the other side of micro-dosing, and me. The Vines is also home to an exclusive winemakers collective and private club (with a six-figure buy in) that's expanding globally with invitationonly epicurean excursions around the planet, and they were all either members or guests.

Slowly but surely we were immersed into the magic that is Mallmann. Fine dining transports you through the alchemic skills of a chef turning simple ingredients into a journey for your taste buds. But this was more than that. For Mallmann cooking is not simply finding the best ingredients and transforming them on a stove. It is a sensual experience at one with nature that transports your soul. As he has said, "When you cook with fires, it's a bit like making love; it could be huge strong, or it could go very slowly in ashes and little coals." And you are responsible not only for sourcing and preparing your ingredients but lighting the fire and silently pondering life and its mysteries as what you have prepared is slowly transformed by nature. From the single match spark to first contact and the slow chemical transformation that creates his signature food and lifestyle experience. All at one with the beauty and magnificence of nature.

We wielded Damascus-steel knives, chopped, diced, paired, peeled and patted meats, vegetables, and sweets. We cooked on any number of fire-breathing devices mysterious to all those of European and North American extraction. And in between inhaled wines made from grapes grown within a short walk of where we sucked the marrow from life under the winter sun of the Uco Valley. But the real secret of what we learned was to slow down and immerse ourselves in simple sensual pleasures. Preparing and sharing exceptional ingredients in the light of an ethereal vista whilst sharing the fruits of our labors and exchanging stories under the stars.

I left full of life. Ready to head back to Gotham and hold back the pressure cooker intensity of the greatest city on earth. Provisioned with knives, and spices, and the techniques of a man who has lived a life of freedom. Out there in the far reaches of the universe doing his own thing. ■





"Mallman is an intellectual, foodie, wine lover, fire lover and maniac."





This page, top: Riding with gauchos in the Uco Valley; ***Middle:*** Traditional foot trodding of Malbec grapes at The Vines' winemaking facility; ***Bottom left:*** Tortilla con tomates at The Vines; ***Bottom right:*** Bife de chorizo con chimichurri at Siete Fuegos; ***Opposite page, top:*** Prepping for dinner at The Vines under the stars; ***Bottom:*** Mallman cooking over an open fire

DESTINATION MAXIM

NEW ZEALAND

SPECIAL EDITION #3 - SEPTEMBER 2023

ANTIGUA

10

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CARIBBEAN
GETAWAY

GALLEY BAY RESORT & SPA

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DESTINATION MAXIM

BAY BLISS

If you're looking for tropical tranquillity, secluded seaside serenity, rum and relaxation and some major overall island indulgence, GALLEY BAY RESORT & SPA, Antigua – our host location for this month's Destination MAXIM tour – is the Caribbean getaway for you...

Tour Leader PARIS RAINE
Photography by ROCKY BATCHELOR
Cinematography by ALEX SCAPENS
Hair & make-up by MARIANA DE LOS SANTOS
Location GALLEY BAY RESORT & SPA

Cover photo (from left):
Katia Shchukina, Samantha Pattison, Ashley Kolfage and Brooke Sands



The warm and welcoming staff at Galley Bay Resort & Spa in Antigua were buzzing as the Destination MAXIM crew arrived for yet another of our quality tropical tours. As the resort personnel prepared to give our models the ultimate VIP treatment during our stay, they certainly didn't disappoint.

We chose Galley Bay Resort as our Destination MAXIM Australia July tour because of its pristine beauty and luxurious amenities. Situated on the west coast of Antigua, surrounded by lush greenery and crystal-clear waters, the setting was ideal to create more world-class content with 10 stunning MAXIM models for this very edition you hold in your hands right now. Oh, and before we go on any further, be sure to also check out the video content on our YouTube and social channels. Now back to the Galley Bay... as the team arrived, they were greeted by the resort's manager who personally escorted them to their rooms. Elegantly designed with luxurious furnishings and awe-inspiring ocean views, the rooms were perfect as the team was then treated to a traditional Caribbean welcome drink – a refreshing blend of rum and tropical fruit juices. This was followed by a detailed tour of the resort, highlighting its unique features such as the private beach and the organic farm that supplies the freshest produce for their restaurants. Suffice to say, team MAXIM was eager to explore everything the resort had to offer.

To start the day, they headed to the resort's beach for a day of water activities – our models indulged in sailing, jet skiing, paddle boarding, snorkelling, tennis, volleyball, yoga and more. The waters of Antigua

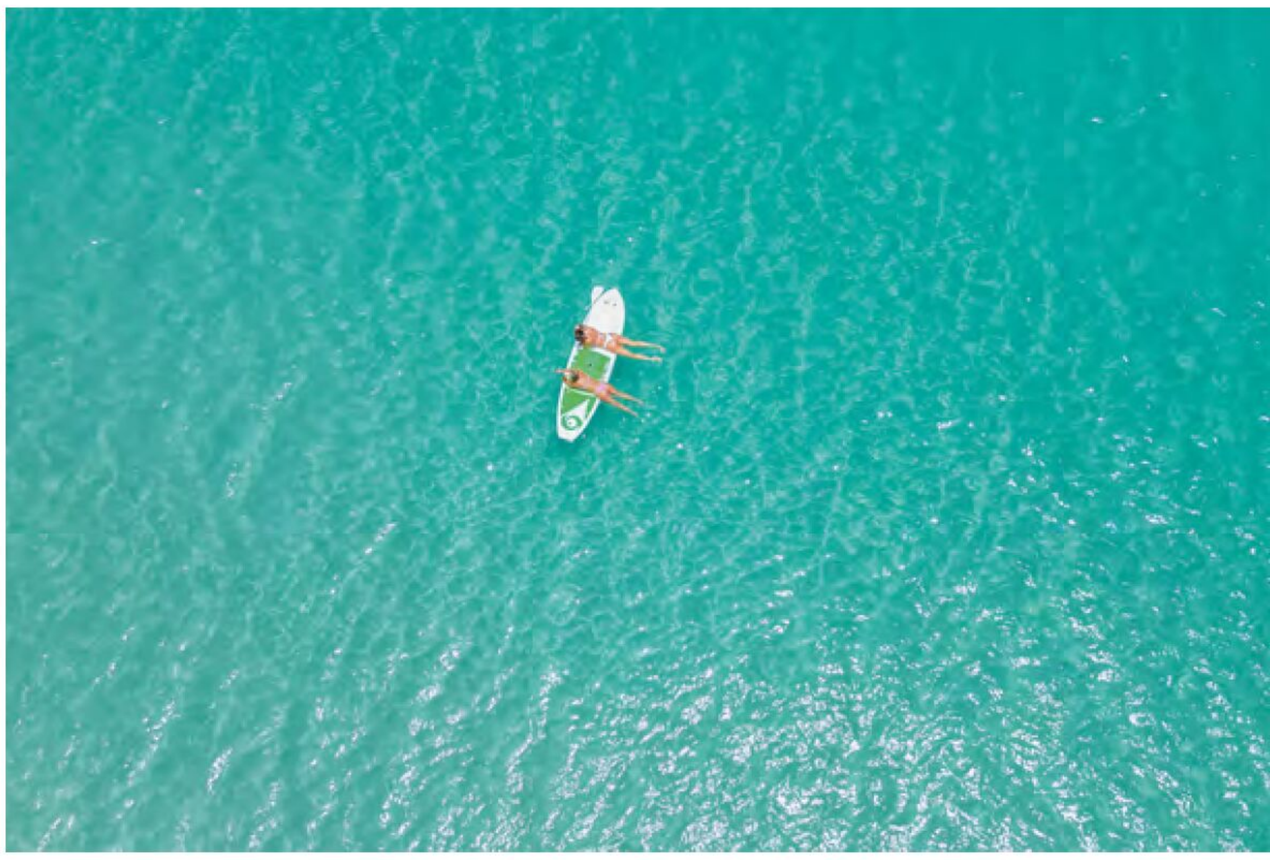












were perfect for exploring vibrant coral reefs and schools of colourful sea life. Another highlight of the stay was the dining experiences the resort has to offer. Galley Bay has three unique restaurants serving a range of mouthwatering cuisines. Each eatery is designed with a distinct ambiance, from romantic candle-lit dinners under the starry sky (for those wanting to impress a significant other) to casual seaside dining.

The MAXIM crew was particularly taken by the Gaugin Restaurant, which is situated on a wooden deck overlooking the ocean. The menu is a fusion of Caribbean and French cuisine, and the chefs used only the freshest ingredients, sourced from the aforementioned organic farm. The team even got an exclusive opportunity to interact with the resort chefs and learn the art of Caribbean cooking and were given a cooking demonstration on how to concoct Caribbean delicacies suchas Pepperpot, Antiguan Fungi and Goat Water.

Antigua is known for its famous reggae music, and, as always, the MAXIM team were excited to experience the local nightlife. Let's just say we visited a few of the local bars in the village of Bolans, which were pumping full of locals, young and old, getting down to the beats of some quality reggae tunes. Needless to say, Destination MAXIM's visit to Galley Bay Resort & Spa was a unique experience that left all captivated by the location's natural beauty, world-class amenities and exceptional service. This place was indeed an ideal destination, offering the perfect balance between luxury and landscape. We can't wait to return to Galley Bay Resort & Spa one day – it was certainly a trip to remember and definitely in our top three Destination MAXIM destinations so far.

For booking inquiries and more info head to GALLEYBAYRESORT.COM



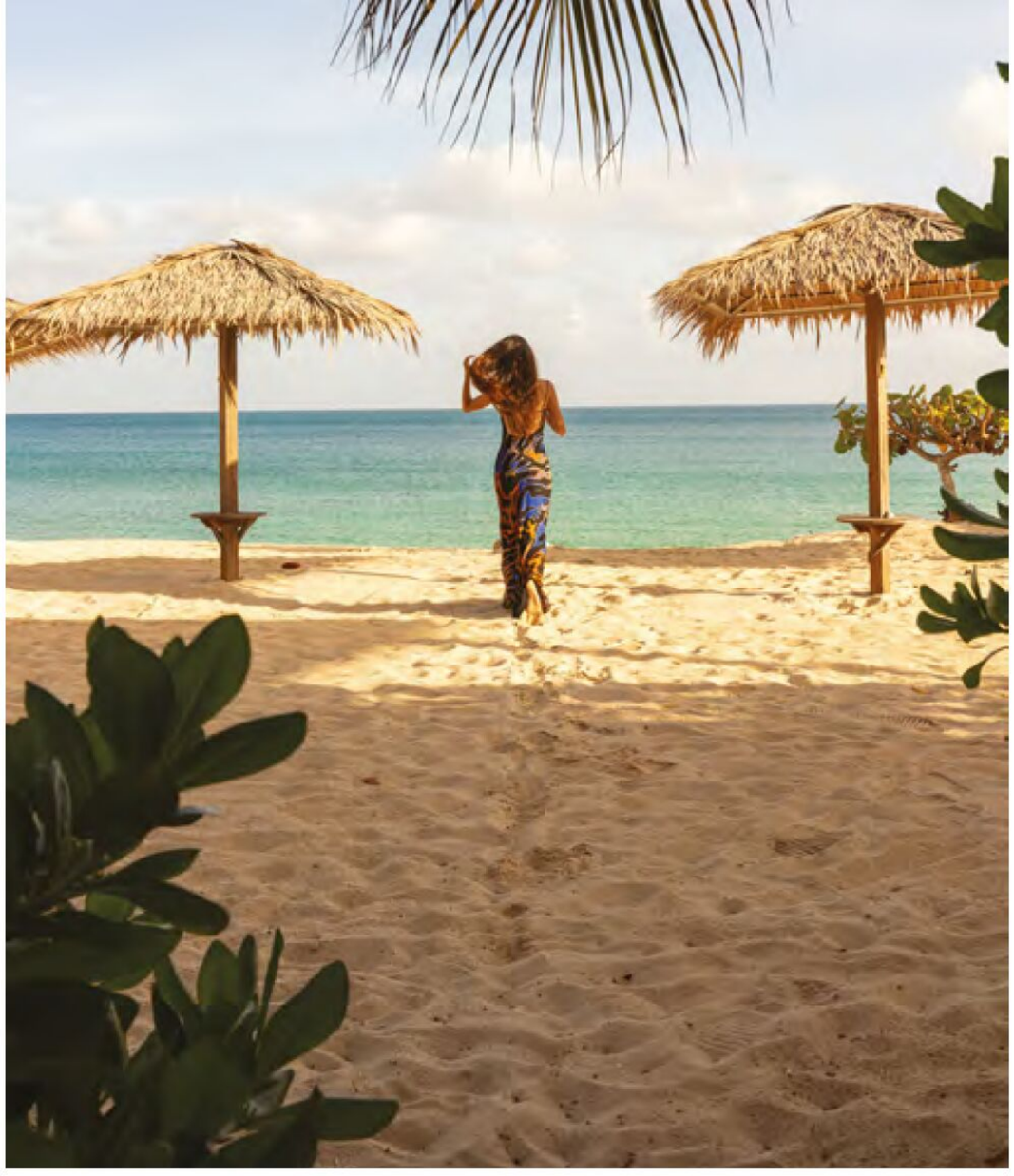
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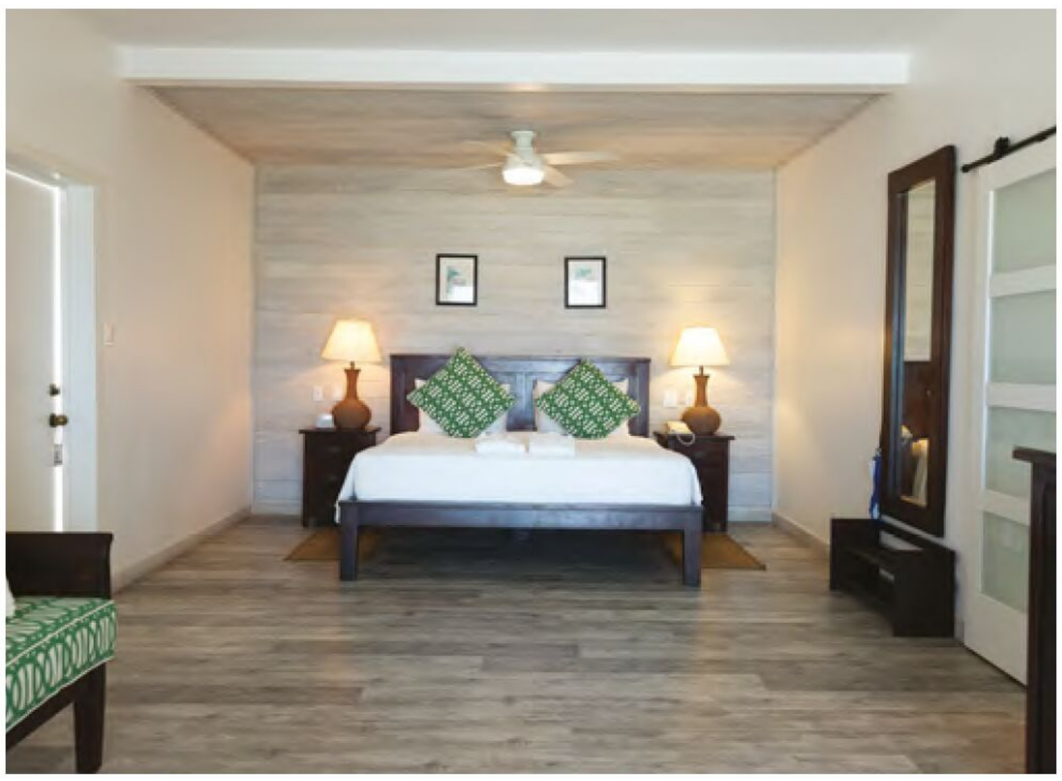
A tropical paradise of luxury, relaxation and adventure in Antigua...

Imagine kicking back on a stunning beach, surrounded by turquoise waters and lush tropical vibes – that's the Galley Bay Resort & Spa experience in a nutshell. This place isn't your typical run-of-the-mill resort; it's a tropical paradise that brings together jaw-dropping beauty, top-notch pampering and adventure, all in one incredible package. Picture this: you step onto the powdery soft sand and boom! – you're hit with the chill Caribbean breeze. And Galley Bay's got a range of super cool spots for you to crash – from swanky beachfront cottages to sleek lagoon suites and garden rooms that blend seamlessly into the lush greenery. It's like your own private slice of paradise, complete with all the modern bells and whistles.

But wait, it gets better. The resort is all about being eco-friendly and preserving Mother Nature – using solar power, conserving water and serving up local eats. So not only are you living it up in style, but you're also doing your bit for the environment. Win-win, right? Now, if you're in the mood to unwind like a boss, the Indulge Spa is where it's at. They've got these rad treatments that are all about local vibes and natural goodness. Just thinking about getting pampered to the sounds of the waves and that Caribbean breeze is pure bliss.

Foodies, brace yourselves – Galley Bay's dining game is on point. You've got the Sea Grape Restaurant right on the beach, dishing out







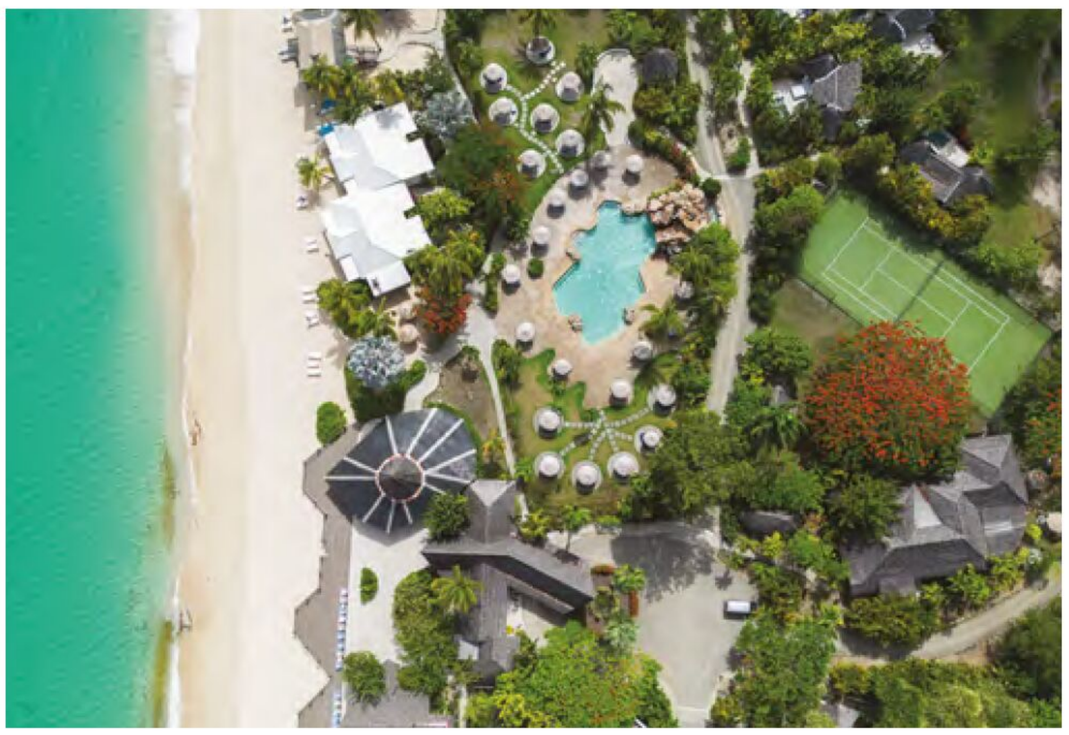




freshly caught seafood and killer grilled dishes, and for some authentic Antiguan flavours, hit up Gauguin Restaurant. They even set up private beach dinners with your own waiter and sunset views. Now that's how you impress a date!

Here's the kicker – the folks at Galley Bay are like your new best mates. Seriously, they go above and beyond to make sure you're living the good life. Whether it's hooking you up with off-site adventures, throwing surprise shindigs or just remembering how you take your morning brew, they've got your back. And let's not forget the fun stuff – water sports, tennis, yoga and more. If you're all about making a splash, the infinity pool is where you want to be – it's the ultimate spot to soak up the sun or show off your backstroke skills.

Now, when the sun calls it a day, the resort turns into this dreamy, romantic wonderland. Live music, cultural performances and themed nights? Check. Sipping cocktails by the fire pit or taking a moonlit stroll on the beach? Double check. It's like every evening is a scene out of a movie set in the tropics and Galley Bay Resort & Spa in Antigua is



where the good times roll. It's not just a vacation; it's an adventure that's got luxury, relaxation and that awesome Caribbean vibe all rolled into one. If you're looking to ditch the daily grind and treat yourself to an epic getaway, Galley Bay's waiting to show you a damn good time.

For more follow Galley Bay resort on Instagram at GALLEYBAYRESORT.COM





STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Luna Lavine

BORN:
November 22

HOME TOWN:
Mexico

CURRENTLY LIVES:
California, USA

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Someone who is hard to forget."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Sometimes you win and other times you learn."

TIKTOK & INSTAGRAM:
@xolunalavine



Luna

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I'm a Mexican model and aspiring actress born to a Catholic family in Tijuana. I moved to San Diego USA in 2007 to attend school and graduated from UC Berkeley in 2020 where I studied architecture. I'm now pursuing opportunities in modelling and showbusiness.

What is your best asset?
Someone once told me I have the face of an angel, the body of the devil and a heart of gold.

When do you feel sexy?
I feel my sexiest when I rock my natural beauty.

Describe your Destination MAXIM experience.
Beautiful place with beautiful people – can't complain with that!

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
A confident man who provides and protects for his woman.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
Most women like a man who takes initiative.

What have you learned about men over the years?
You have to go through a lot of bad apples before you get to the good ones.

What do you love most about yourself?
My unique perspective on the world.

Tell us something new happening in your life right now?
I'm now taking applications for my future husband!



STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Ashley Kolfage

BORN:
September 16

HOME TOWN:
San Angelo, Texas USA

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Destin, Florida USA

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Confident, athletic, adventurous, outgoing, mum."

SNAPCHAT:
@Ashley_kol

TWITTER/TIKTOK/ INSTAGRAM:
@ashleyk_hawaii



Ashley

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
The fact I drive a monster truck as my daily truck.

What is your best asset?
Probably my stomach or my booty.

When do you feel sexy?
I feel sexy 99% of the time – LOL – so all day. I feel like when you have the confidence it just shows.

Describe your Destination MAXIM experience.
Amazing! The group made it feel like a little family and the relaxation on the trip was so nice! The highlights were definitely snorkelling in the ocean with Brooke or playing volleyball. I love sports and anything outdoors.

What's the most attractive quality in a guy?
Opening the door for your girl :).

What's one thing men should always know about women?
When we say we don't know what we want for dinner we truly don't. Just pick! Also, order one extra if we say we aren't hungry.

Tell us something new happening in your life right now?
I helped start a new management team for girls in the south called Southern Charm.

What's next for you?
The biggest project I have coming up is Sema! It's the world's largest truck show and my massive F250 lifted truck is going to be there. Come check it out in Vegas if you're in town!

Nicky

Tell us a bit about yourself:
I'm a Korean American who was born and raised in Orange County USA. I got scouted for modelling and have been in the industry for about six years. I am currently in school to become a nurse and will most likely strive to become a nurse practitioner. I am also a crazy cat lady – I have five Bengal cats of whom I absolutely adore, they are like my children!

When do you feel sexy?
I feel sexy when I feel physically fit and dolled up.

What would people be surprised to know about you:
I'm very good with firearms, LOL!

What is your best asset?
I've always heard that my legs are my best asset.

Describe your Destination MAXIM Experience.
Being able to experience Antigua was a dream. I have always wanted to visit the Caribbean and it was crazy to see how blue and warm the water really is. The resort and staff were also amazing and I had such a great time meeting the other girls – I feel like I made new friends from this experience :).

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
Typical quality traits – honesty, integrity, kindness, warmth, compassion, humbleness, strong, educated and driven!

What's one thing men should always know about women?
Women are a different species. We are emotionally complex beings and that means we communicate differently than men do.

What do you love about yourself the most?
That I have compassion and empathy towards others. I think it's a crucial time in the world to try to display acts of kindness everywhere you go. I feel like the world is falling apart and we just never know what others are going through – therefore, just be kind!

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Nicky Park

BORN:
September 3

HOME TOWN:
Orange County, California USA

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Los Angles, California USA

FIVE WORD SELF-DESCRIPTION:
Cheerful, generous, overachiever, empath etic, reliable."

LIFE MOTTO:
"If there's a will, there's a way."

SNAPCHAT & INSTAGRAM:
@thenickypark

Samantha

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
I'm a very adventurous women who isn't who I look like – people can easily get sidetracked that I look like a bad girl because of my tattoos and appearance. I think people would be most surprised by my nature of how much of a softy I actually am – my looks don't justify my aesthetic.

What is your best asset?
My face is naturally quite pretty and I'm very grateful for my facial structure. My core is very toned and strong and I've maintained a really healthy momentum with it to keep my abs looking sharp.

When do you feel sexy?
When I'm my most confident and doing something that's very feminine, like this MAXIM photo shoot. Confidence stems from within and it's so important to love and be proud of yourself first before anything else.

What was the highlight of your Destination MAXIM trip?
Honestly, meeting the other girls – I love meeting new people and sharing this experience with the other models has been really special.

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
Physical, charm and manners.

What's the most attractive quality in a guy?
When he proves to you that he's trusting and a provider, but can listen and understand you.

What do you love most about yourself?
I love that I'm such a free spirit person and I'm optimistic to many things but not all. I also love that I'm able to travel and explore without the limitations of a job or a pet that limits my precious time.



STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Samantha Pattison

BORN:
June 19

HOMETOWN:
Melbourne Vic

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Exciting, creative, independent, fun, optimistic."

LIFE MOTTO:
"We only have one life so live it the way you want."

TIKTOK:
@sammyypp1

INSTAGRAM:
@samanthapattison





Jessica





Tell us a bit about yourself.
I grew up all over Canada and I've finally settled in Kelowna BC. I owned a lash studio for five years and left it behind to pursue modelling and absolutely love it.

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
That I'm a homebody and I love to cook.

What is your best asset?
Physically, my eyes are my best asset, otherwise it's my mind. I take a lot of pride in who I am and how I treat others. I don't think it's something that can be taught to have a certain level of empathy and kindness.

When do you feel sexy?
After two glasses of wine – LOL! No, seriously, when I'm my comfiest with no make-up on and messy hair. I feel so sexy and comfortable.

What was the highlight of your Destination MAXIM trip?
My MAXIM Antigua experience was amazing. It was so gorgeous and meeting other models, who I've stayed friends with, is just so special. I can't wait to go on another trip with MAXIM.

Where would you like to travel to next and why?
Italy and Egypt are next on my list. I am obsessed with history and learning about other cultures.

What's the most attractive quality in a guy?
Confidence 100%. I love a man who isn't afraid to be himself.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
We DO like being told what to do.

What have you learned about men over the years?
If they want to – they will.

Tell us something new happening in your life right now?
This is my first time working with MAXIM, so this is new and exciting for me!

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Jessica Erin Kearney

BORN:
April 11

HOME TOWN:
Owen Sound, Ontario Canada

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Kelowna, British Columbia

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Honest, confident, hilarious, ambitious, passionate."

LIFE MOTTO:
"You only live once!"

TIKTOK:
@itsjessfromos

INSTAGRAM:
@thejessicaerin





Katia

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I'm Ukrainian – this defines my character a lot. Sometimes I seem too serious and cold, but I'm a little bit crazy and way too brave, even when I really shouldn't be. I've worked on TV since I was 16, I'm a writer, but now more often I produce shows – though usually people assume I am a host – and I do everything from travel, talent shows to serious documentaries. I am a total book nerd and when I'm drunk I might start reciting silly French poems. Oh yes, I also speak six languages fluently.

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
I love snakes. They are hypnotising in the way they move and are just one pure muscle, strong, flexible and warm when touched. One of my biggest dreams is to own a python.

When do you feel sexy?
After a long day at the beach, when my skin is still a little bit salty after swimming in the ocean, the first tan appearing on my shoulders and stomach, sand in my hair and the whole body hot and relaxed.

What's next for you?
I'm filming my own documentary series about women around the world. I have been working on this project for three years, so I am both very nervous and excited to have the premiere in Cannes in October. Also, my debut novel was accepted for publishing – it also explores the topics of being a woman, dealing with society, sex and violence. The story is set in the city I adore and miss a lot, my native Kyiv.



STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Katia Shchukina

BORN:
December 18

HOME TOWN:
Kyiv, Ukraine

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Barcelona, Spain

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Fearless, restless, adventurous, kind, faithful."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Life has too many possibilities, I can never have enough."

INSTAGRAM:
@eleven_kate

Brooke

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I was born and raised in a small town in North Carolina USA and I try to take those "Southern Roots" with me everywhere I go – southern hospitality is real! Growing up as an athlete helped shape my work ethic, resilience and passion to live a healthy lifestyle. Besides family, I attribute sports to being the most significant part of what makes me who I am today. I also explored the world of modelling during high school and I'm an entrepreneur at heart! I started my first business (in e-commerce) at the age of 22.

What is your best asset?
My smile. Sharing a genuine smile with someone can have the ability to turn their day around instantly. That's priceless to me.

When do you feel sexy?
I feel more confident, healthier and happier than I ever have before in my life. To me, that's all that anyone needs to feel 'sexy.'

Describe your Destination MAXIM experience.
The entire experience felt like a dream. Everyone made me feel so comfortable and confident, and that's when the magic happens. Galley Bay Resort was the perfect location to capture Antigua in all of her beauty. I took full advantage of island life, living off of fresh fish and fruit at almost every meal, bike rides around the resort and a dip in the ocean every afternoon to cool off. I feel so honoured and fortunate for this opportunity to be a part of the MAXIM family.

STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Brooke Sands

BORN:
September 8

HOME TOWN:
Concord, North Carolina USA

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Destin, Florida USA

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Positive, resourceful, adventurous, witty, ambitious."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Fortune favours the bold."

SNAPCHAT:
@bjsands8

TWITTER/TIKTOK/ INSTAGRAM:
@brookejsands





STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Sheara Christina Favaro

BORN:
August 5

HOME TOWN:
Niagara Falls, Ontario Canada

CURRENTLY LIVES:
Bonnyville Alberta, Canada

LIFE MOTTO:
Life is short, live it."

SNAPCHAT:
@princesssheara

TWITTER/TIKTOK:
@misssheara

INSTAGRAM:
@missshea_raa

Sheara

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I'm a salon owner who loves to help other women feel beautiful. I live for the gym, being beautiful, confident and motivating others to live life.

What is your best asset?
My beautiful face and heart.

What's the best place you've been to in the world?
So far Antigua with Destination MAXIM – hands down the best beach I've seen so far.

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
Someone who is loving caring and patient.

What's the most attractive quality in a guy?
Affection and telling the truth even though it hurts.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
Love and support her on her good and bad days.

What do you love most about yourself?
That I'm very forgiving and loving.

What's your guilty pleasure?
Being told not to do something and doing it anyway.

Tell us something new happening in your life right now?
Right now, I am waiting for Exposed Sports to launch, which took place in Las Vegas USA. It's a topless sports league with all the beautiful women out there in the world joining.

What's next for you?
Just continuing to travel and helping other women and companies out there fulfill their goals like mine.



Kira

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I am a model and influencer who was born in the Czech Republic. I studied Information Technology and I have just finished my university degree in Marketing and Business. I am passionate about fitness, travel and the fashion industry and I really love history and classic literature.

What would people be most surprised to know about you?
I have a passion for ancient places and museums – I always wanted to be an archaeologist. Also, I'm quite good at information technology.

What is your best asset?
Being feminine and disciplined.

When do you feel sexy?
When I wear high heels, I love it.

Describe your Destination MAXIM experience.
It was truly amazing! Beautiful everlasting memories, the content that we created was incredible and we were also staying in a stunning resort located in wonderful nature. We all had such a great time!

What was the highlight of your Destination MAXIM trip?
Besides the photo shoots, I really enjoyed connecting with like-minded people.

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
I love deep, intensive relationships with a faithful, manly, brave, driven in life to succeed, protective and good-hearted man.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
Women need emotional security.

What have you learned about men over the years?
That they can be strong and caring at the same time.

What do you love most about yourself?
That I'm a brave person.

Tell us something new happening in your life right now?
I graduated from university this year.





STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Kira Bilkova

BORN:
September 15

HOME TOWN:
Ostrava, Czech Republic

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Loyal, feminine, intensive, devoted, deep."

LIFE MOTTO:
"Be the best version of yourself."

TIKTOK & INSTAGRAM:
@kirabilko

INSTAGRAM:
@kirabilko







STATUS UPDATE

NAME:
Glenda Bocchi

BORN:
October 4

HOME TOWN:
Sao Paulo, Brazil

FIVE-WORD SELF DESCRIPTION:
"Kind, intense, loyal, creative and caring."

LIFE MOTTO:
"If you do not intimidate the world, the world will intimidate you."

INSTAGRAM:
@glendabocchi



Glenda

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I was born in Brazil and I'm the daughter of a Spanish mum and Italian dad. At seven years old I studied classical piano and went on to study music for 10 more years. Playing the piano is escapism for me and helps me relax and return to my peace. Today, with a graduation in creative direction, I'm very happy to be able to work with what I love the most in life – the art.

When do you feel sexy?
When I take care of myself. Taking care of myself is like a ritual – every day I try to be the best version of myself.

What is your best asset?
My mind and my soul.

What do you love most about yourself?
My determination of strength and courage to live my dreams.

What was the highlight of your Destination MAXIM trip?
Being in paradise place with happy and special people, made me willing to be who I really am and it was amazing to live every moment.

What would say to someone who is interested in signing up for a Destination MAXIM tour?
Living this experience is incredibly lovely and memorable.

Describe your ideal man in one sentence.
Intelligent and good humour is fundamental, looks can be a bonus.

What's the most attractive quality in a guy?
Honesty and kindness.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
Never underestimate the intelligence and how powerful she can be. ■

Join Us On Future Tours!

Words simply can't describe how amazing our experience was in Antigua. It truly is a beautiful island and was the perfect location for the amazing content we created. If you want to join team Destination MAXIM for a memorable tour just DM us now and find out where to next!







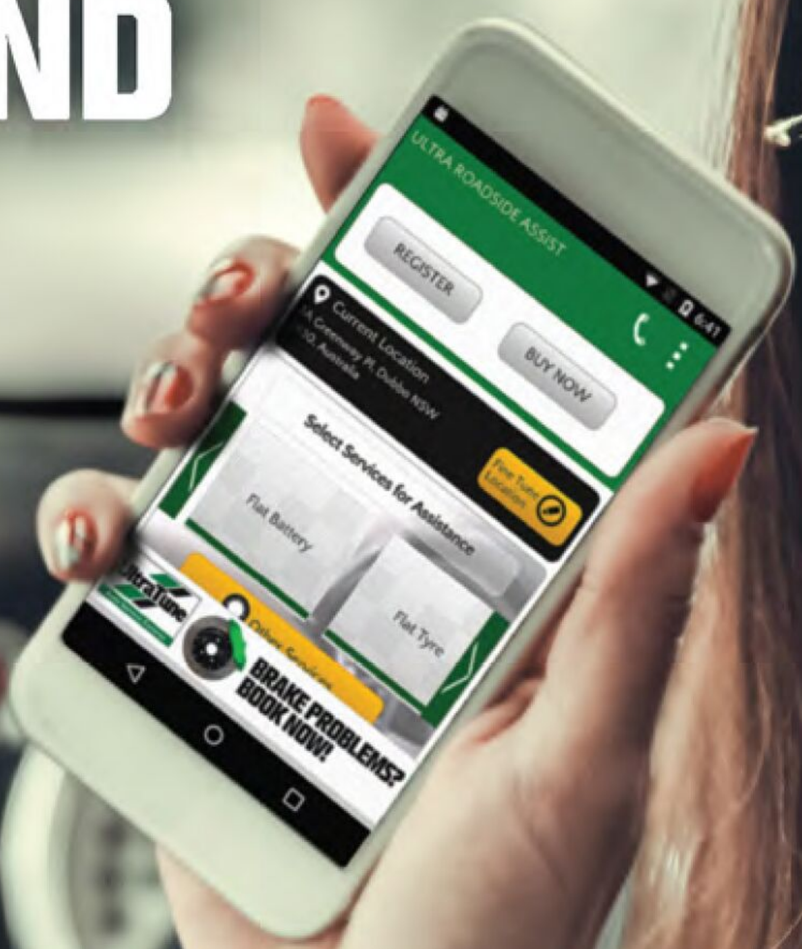
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